



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 27 FEBRUARY 2022

EIGHTH 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

For a good tree does not
bear bad fruit nor does a
bad tree bear good fruit.

What do you produce?

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)

Eighth Week in Ordinary Time, Year C

Monday—28th February

8:15am Mass @ The Cathedral

Tuesday—1st March

8:15am Mass @ The Cathedral

Wednesday—2nd March

Ash Wednesday

8:00am Mass @ Stockton

8:15am Mass @ The Cathedral

9:00am Mass @ Mayfield West

9:15am Mass @ Tighes Hill (CANCELLED)

12 noon Mass @ The Cathedral

5:30pm Mass @ Tighes Hill

6:00pm Mass @ The Cathedral (Polish)

6:00pm Mass @ Mayfield West (Vietnamese)

Thursday—3rd March

****PARISH OFFICE CLOSED FOR STAFF DEVELOPMENT**

8:15am Mass @ The Cathedral

8:30am Mass @ Stockton

Friday—4th March

10:15am Mass @ The Junction

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

12:05pm Mass @ The Cathedral

Saturday—5th March

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—6th March

1st Sunday of Lent, 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)

3:00pm Devotions to Divine Mercy @ Christ the
King Church, Mayfield West.

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 March @ 6pm to discuss
Devotion by Hannah Kent. 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/](https://www.newcastlecatholic.org.au/sacramental-enrolment-form/)

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

PRIDE MASS

Our Diocese is hosting a Pride Mass for LGBTIQ people
and their families, friends and supporters.

Time: 6.00PM

Date: Friday, 4 March 2022

Location: Immaculate Heart of Mary Church, 16 Tighes
Terrace, Tighes Hill

For more information, contact:

LGBTIQ@mn.catholic.org.au

PRAYER REQUESTS

ANNIVERSARIES: Joan Woodcock, Gwen Jago,
Reg Rees, John Kelly

SICK: Maree Halbert, Carlo Rossi, Kath Murray,
Veronica McCann, Wayne Bishop, Peter Skinner,
Carmel Blair, Peter Keddie, Tiani Bishop, Jason Yu, Joel
Samy

*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.*



WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

You are invited to participate in World Day of Prayer Service to be held at Uniting Church, Cnr. King and Mitchell Streets, Stockton, Friday 4th MARCH, at 10.00am. The focus of this year's service is England, Wales and Northern Ireland. Please come and join us and bring a plate to share for morning tea following the service.

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>

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

MEDITATION GROUPS AT LIVING WATERS CENTRE

34 Kenrick Street, The Junction, will resume on Wednesday 23rd February at 7.30am and Friday 25th at 11.00am. All are welcome, including new meditators, but you will need to be at least double-vaccinated and you must wear a mask. Hand sanitizing is still required. Wednesday is usually a small group and would suit those who do not wish to go into crowds.

The Monday evening group is not resuming, but a meditation group is available on Tuesdays at 6.00pm at St Philip's Church, Vista Parade, Kotara.

VIEW, CHEW, AND CHAT

The schedule for March is:

March 2 (Week 1): no meeting

March 9 (Week 2): Bible Study;

March 16 and 23 (Weeks 3 and 4): Lectio Divina

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

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

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.

The resource provides the opportunity to encounter scripture and our synodal themes through the process of Mystagogical Reflection. As you encounter the mystery of God in the scripture, this will lead you to discover the mystery of God in one another through sharing of life and experience. This resource is available on the Diocesan website: www.mn.catholic.org.au/church-mission/catholic-life/liturgy/lent-2022

The Diocese will be hosting Mystagogical Reflections each week during Lent, Monday mornings at 10.30am and Thursday evenings at 6.30pm. To register, visit: <https://www.eventbrite.com.au/o/diocese-of-maitland-newcastle-18080128129>

THE RITE OF ELECTION

The Rite of Election on Sunday 6 March 2022 is an opportunity to welcome all the catechumens who will be baptised in their parishes at the Easter Vigil (a catechumen is an unbaptised person whose search for meaning has brought them to the Catholic Church). You are invited to join the People of God in witness and prayerful support of those who choose to be Catholic.

2.30pm Sacred Heart Cathedral Newcastle West, followed by covid-safe afternoon tea. Please RSVP for catering to E sharon.murphy@mn.catholic.org.au P 4979 1134.

CELEBRATING WOMEN IN OUR DIOCESE

Join us in honouring the women in our Diocese, as we mark both International Women's Day and the launch of our new Council for Women!

We are hosting a celebratory Mass, which will be followed by a morning tea.

We hope you can join us for this special occasion!

TIME: 9.30am

DATE: Sunday, 6 March 2022

LOCATION: Sacred Heart Cathedral, Hamilton

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.

ONLINE FORUM FOR PARISHES Implementing Laudato Si'

This is a follow-up forum to an earlier event organised by St Dominic's Parish, Camberwell, Victoria, with the assistance of the Parishes of Cheltenham and Highett. The Forum will invite you to:

Consider models and resources available to parishes for implementing the Laudato Si' message of care for our common home

Engage in Q&A around what initial steps can be taken to build a systematic response to this pressing call.

Date & Time: Tuesday 8 March 2022, 7.30 – 9.30 pm

Registration: Register free at Www.trybooking.com/BVHTM

"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>

ASH WEDNESDAY

The Season of Lent commences on 2 March with the celebration of Ash Wednesday.

Ash Wednesday will be celebrated in the region as follows:

8.15am The Cathedral

9.15am Mayfield West

12noon The Cathedral

5.30pm Tighes Hill

6:00pm The Cathedral (Polish Community)

6:30pm Mayfield West (Vietnamese)

THE CHUCKLE



Matthew, Mark and Luke, see me after class;
your book reports are oddly similar.

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.

SEASON FOR GROWTH: ADULT SEMINAR

UNDERSTANDING CHANGE, LOSS AND GRIEF

This seminar is an educational experience, so the activities are designed to be objective rather than tap into Participants personal stories of loss and grief.

This session will provide you with an opportunity to:

Examine the meaning of grief

Review the range of changes and losses experienced in life

Explore grief reactions and factors that influence them

Identify different styles of grieving

Explore strategies of empowerment, including the role of choice in the grief journey and the importance of networks of support

Date: Saturday March 12

Time: 9am-12pm

Venue: Diocesan Office, Toohey Room, Newcastle

RSVP: by March 1 to

loretta.heffernan@mn.catholic.org.au 0408 895 951

PRAYER FOR THE APPOINTMENT OF OUR NEW BISHOP

Shepherding God you reveal your way of unfailing love in the image of the Good Shepherd who seeks the lost, shows compassion knows and is known by the sheep and lays down his life for them.

We your people of Maitland-Newcastle are without a bishop to shepherd us.

We ask that your Holy Spirit who moves through this great south land, inspire the choice of our new Bishop, empower his 'yes' and open our hearts in hospitality and love.

We make this prayer through Christ our Lord, Amen.

Our Lady of Perpetual Help pray for us Mary MacKillop of the Cross pray for us.

LIVING THE GOSPEL

You hypocrite

It is often argued that it is hypocrisy to attend Mass on Sundays and be 'holy' in that circumstance but to then be less than perfect during the rest of the week. This is often rolled out as a convenient excuse for not attending Mass at all: everyone who goes to Mass is a hypocrite. Of course, attending Mass does not imply perfection. It is in fact a recognition of imperfection and the need to come together as a community and to seek God's help to have another go at trying to get it a bit more right in the coming week.

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS:

1st Sunday of Lent, Year C

Sir 27:4-7: Speech shows state of mind.

1 Cor 15:54-58: Death has no victory

Lk 6:39-45: Take the plank from your eye.

REFLECTION

By Richard Leonard

At Rome, during the 16th Century, the most famous confessor in town was St Philip Neri. Popes and paupers sought his counsel and spiritual direction.

One day a famous Duchess came to him and confessed the sin of gossip. Philip Neri told her to go home and get a feather pillow and return to the steps of the Church. Some time later he met her there and produced a small knife. He told the noblewoman to rip open the pillow. As she did, the swirling wind in the square picked up the loose feathers and they danced around the square and down the lanes.

St Philip and the Duchess watched in silence as the feathers went everywhere. He then turned to her and said, "Now, go and collect all the feathers." To which she protested, "They have gone everywhere, I couldn't possibly find and regather them." "So too with your tongue, Madam," St Philip scolded her, "You have no idea where you gossip goes and you can never unsay it."

In today's Gospel Jesus teaches us that our words reflect the state of our hearts.

Psychologists tell us that there are three main reasons why people habitually gossip, or 'share the news' as Australian men prefer to call it: power, envy and boredom.

To know something about someone else can put us in a more powerful position with friends or colleagues. By being able to share what we have 'just heard', we are seen to be current and interesting. But this type of power is destructive because our friends normally assume that when they are absent they are maltreated in the same way. Gossipers have more alliances than friendships.

The most malicious gossip often comes out of envy. Envious gossip often sees people make things up about others and pass it off as though it were true. The worst of tabloid newspapers, television and radio trades on this destructive vice. There is no place for the 'rumour file' in the Christian life. Sometimes, when a company or person have to deny the false accusations made about them, we get what we want – their reputations are tarnished and even their business can be in danger. No wonder medieval theologians called envy a 'deadly sin'.

Boredom, however, is a modern cause for gossip. Our relationships and the way in which we hold each other's trust and good name to be paramount, are undermined by images from the media about how exciting life should be for everyone. Scene after scene in nov-

els, television programs and films where confidences are betrayed and lives are raked over for comment and intrigue fill in the boredom in our lives with a distorted portrayal of human behaviour. The more we take it in, the more we mirror it in our own conduct.

Jesus does not tell us today that there is no place for criticism, challenge, confrontation and correction in the Christian life. Just that we have the responsibility to very careful about what we say about others and how we criticise and condemn them. Jesus reminds us that most of our condemnation of others, is what we now call, "projection", where we ignore similar failings in ourselves, but roundly condemn them in others.

May this Eucharist, then, help all of us let go of the need to be powerful, the deadly sin of envy and more creative with what we do when we are bored. May it help us make better choices about how we speak, to whom we speak and what we say.

St Philip Neri knew it all too well: most times we cannot know the consequences of what we say and we can never unsay it.

© Richard Leonard SJ

Richard Leonard SJ is the Director of the Australian Catholic Office for Film and Broadcasting, is a member of the Australian Catholic Media Council and a film critic for all the major Australian Catholic newspapers. He completed a PhD in cinema studies at the University of Melbourne. He lectures in cinema and theology at the Jesuit College of Spirituality and has been a visiting lecturer in Australian cinema at the University of Melbourne, a visiting scholar within the School of Theatre, Film and Television at UCLA and is visiting professor at the Pontifical Gregorian University in Rome. He is an Honorary Fellow of the Australian Catholic University, has lectured widely and is the author of numerous books.

ART AND SPIRITUALITY WORKSHOP

Creation of art provides an opportunity for a deepening awareness of oneself and the world, and can act as a catalyst for evoking the Spirit. Art is a means to see-to-re-search and find the living meaning of what it means to open the heart. Everyone has the ability to create art, but in order for it to be theological, the artist needs to explore ways that it makes sense of faith. Opening the heart through art involves making meaning through the creation, then reflecting on the art itself and the unfolding the moment-to-moment direct experience of the process. This workshop will provide an opportunity to awaken the Spirit through the beauty of God's creation, prayer, and reflection. Participants will engage in art making experiences which will nourish their faith.

Dates: Thursday March 31 (9am-3pm)

Venue: Kilaben Bay Community Centre

Cost: \$25 per person

To register to go: <https://www.eventbrite.com.au/o/diocese-of-maitland-newcastle-18080128129>

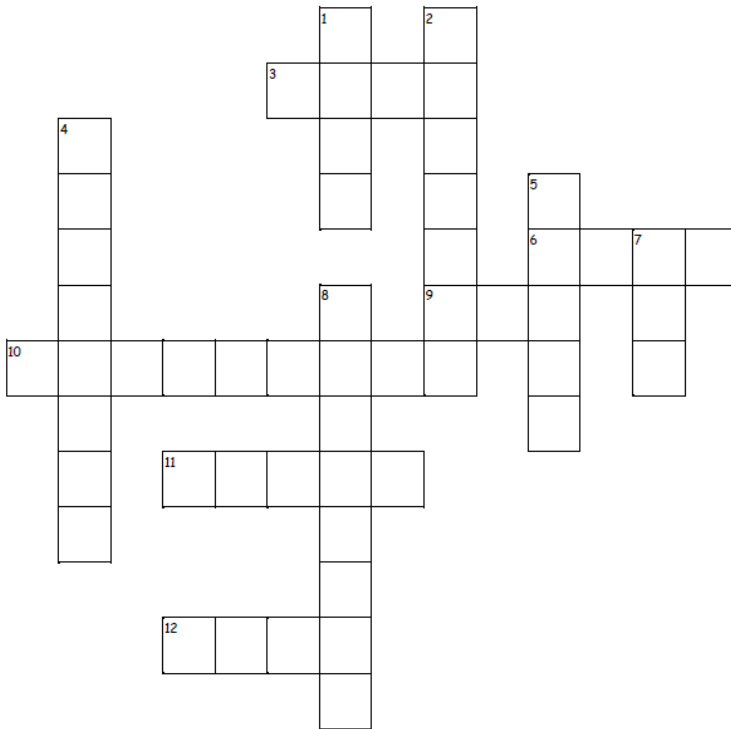
Contact: Rose McAllister

rose.mcallister@mn.catholic.org.au

CROSSWORD

Do not praise people before they have spoken

Sir 27:6-7
Ps 92:1-2, 12-13
Lk 6:39-45



Across

- 3: the opposite of false
6: a type of tree often found in hot climates
9: we have two of these
10: a person's moral quality
11: we use these to communicate
12: examination

Down

- 1: a large plant
2: someone who teaches
4: to be filled with faith
5: a small particle
7: a cut down tree trunk
8: people who attend school to learn

JUNIOR WORDSEARCH

Each tree is known by its fruit

Lk 6:39-45

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

Try to find these words:

blind
eye
friend
fruit
hearts
log
produce
speck
students
teacher
thorn
tree



APPEAL

My heart aches greatly at the worsening situation in Ukraine. Despite the diplomatic efforts of the last few weeks, increasingly alarming scenarios are opening up. Like me, many people all over the world are feeling anguish and concern. Once again the peace of all is threatened by partisan interests. I would like to appeal to those with political responsibility to examine their consciences seriously before God, who is the God of peace and not of war; who is the Father of all, not just of some, who wants us to be brothers and not enemies. I pray that all the parties involved refrain from any action that would cause even more suffering to the people, destabilising coexistence between nations and bringing international law into disrepute.

And now I would like to appeal to everyone, believers and non-believers alike. Jesus taught us that the diabolical senselessness of violence is answered with God's weapons, with prayer and fasting. I invite everyone to make next 2 March, Ash Wednesday, a Day of Fasting for Peace. I encourage believers in a special way to dedicate themselves intensely to prayer and fasting on that day. May the Queen of Peace preserve the world from the madness of war.

Franciscus