



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 MARCH 2022

FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT, 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



Stones and the loaves of bread can be similar in shape, colour and texture, but appearances are as deceptive as the tempter in this story from Luke's gospel. The inducement to turn stone into bread plays on the basic human need for nourishment, but also it plays on the desire to get something for nothing – like magic or three wishes from a genie in a bottle. Jesus can accept the harsh reality of stone in the short term because his worldview also encompasses the promise of God's kingdom – the place of plenty.

Art and reflection by Jenny Close

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)

First Week of Lent, Year C

Monday—7th March

Memorial of Sts Perpetua and Felicity

8:15am Mass @ The Cathedral

Tuesday—8th March

Memorial of St John of god

8:15am Mass @ The Cathedral

Wednesday—9th March

Memorial of St Francis of Rome

8:15am Mass @ The Cathedral

9:00am Mass @ Mayfield West

9:15am Mass @ Tighes Hill

Thursday—10th March

8:15am Mass @ The Cathedral

8:30am Mass @ Stockton

Friday—11th March

10:15am Mass @ The Junction

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

12:05pm Mass @ The Cathedral

Saturday—12th 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—13th March

2nd 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*)

5:00pm Mass @ The Cathedral

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

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

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS:

2nd Sunday of Lent, Year C

Gen 15:5-12. 17-18

Phil 3:17 – 4:1

Lk 9:28-36

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

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

VIEW, CHEW, AND CHAT

The schedule for March is:

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.

PRAYER REQUESTS

RECENTLY DECEASED: Rodney Pearson

ANNIVERSARIES: Winifreda Fernando,
James Francis Tait, Laurel Russell, Ada Lewis,
Ada Brown

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

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.



DEPARTURE OF FR ANDREW DOOHAN

As I am sure you are all aware by now, Fr Andrew Doohan is leaving the City Pastoral Region after Easter Sunday and going on a well-deserved sabbatical. I have received a number of calls expressing the desire to leave a token of appreciation for Fr Andrews years of service to the Parishes of Stockton, Mayfield and Inner Newcastle. Those of you who cannot attend a Mass where Fr Andrew is presiding, please feel free to send any correspondence, gifts etc to the office and we will ensure he receives them. Fr Andrew Doohan C/- Po Box 6, The Junction, 2291.

Jade Simonsen

THE BREAKFAST CONVERSATION

returns on Monday 21 March *(details in next week's bulletin)*

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

MEDITATION GROUPS AT LIVING WATERS CENTRE

34 Kenrick Street, The Junction, on Wednesday at 7.30am and Friday 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.

WHAT CAN I DO?

It feels right now like the world has gone crazy: Ukraine, Afghanistan and now our own Australian flood crisis experienced across parts of Queensland and northern New South Wales.

It is hard to know what response can and should be made in response to the humanitarian disasters unfolding across the globe and the human loss of life we are witnessing there. Prayer is however a great place to start, a good first step.

The natural disaster in our own back yard demands something of us out of our Christian faith, story and witness. It is always heartbreaking to witness the loss of property and in many cases the loss of life. Our brothers and sisters suffering.

I draw your attention to the **Caritas** website where you will find ways to encourage our people to donate: <https://www.caritas.org.au/> Flood relief has yet to be added to the site, but right now you can donate to help with the crisis in the Ukraine.

On the Caritas website you will find information and resources that will help you decide the most appropriate ways to help. **St Vincent de Paul** will be doing something too I am sure in response to the floods currently up north but as we have experienced in the past may well affect us here in our own Diocese.

Fr Greg Barker

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>

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](http://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>

MARRIAGE AND RELATIONSHIP EDUCATION

Pastoral Ministries offers a range of innovative, evidence based, award-winning marriage and relationship education programs that have been designed to enhance your relationship with your partner.

Before We Say I Do: This program provides opportunities to explore your relationship, build on your strengths and gain essential knowledge and skills that you will use for years to come. Topics covered include: Expectations of Marriage; Influences of Family of Origin; Communication Styles; Regulating Conflict; Commitment and Dedication; Values and Intimacy.

FOCCUS: (Facilitating Open Couple Communication

Understanding & Study) Prepare/Enrich involves an in-depth, user-friendly questionnaire designed to help you and your partner learn more about yourselves and your unique relationship. Topics covered in the three-part program include: Lifestyle Expectations; Friends and Interests; Personality Match; Communication; Problem Solving; Spirituality and Values; Parenting Issues; Financial Issues; Family of Origin and Commitment and Dedication.

Enhance: At times, we all need a bit of extra help to keep our relationship vibrant and on-track. Enhance is designed for couples to work with an educator in private session(s), where you will be provided with support to address specific issues or challenges in your relationship, based on evidenced informed research. However big or small the perceived issue, we can help. Couples often come to us to discuss re-igniting the spark, communication breakdown, destructive patterns, strengthening the friendship and building the emotional connectedness of the relationship.

Sessions are currently operating on Zoom. Booking is essential 3- 6 months prior to the wedding to secure placement in the Before We Say I Do program. For more information contact.

Robyn Donnelly- Marriage & Relationship Education- Pastoral Ministries

P: 02 4979 1370 M: 0412 637 090

Email: robyn.donnelly@mn.catholic.org.au

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

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.

PRAYER FOR INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY

Women are a reflection of the glory of God.

Today we honour the women of all times and all places:

Women of courage.

Women of hope.

Women suffering

Women mourning.

Women living fully.

Women experiencing joy.

Women delighting in life.

Women knowing the interconnectedness of the human family.

Women honouring the sacredness of the relational, the affective.

Women quietly tending the garden of human flourishing.

Women boldly leading the transformation of unjust global structures.

Women seeking Wisdom.

Women sharing Wisdom.

Women receiving Love.

Women giving Love.

Women: life-giving.

Women: the image of God.

Loving God, we celebrate your faithfulness and love. On this day we commit ourselves to the promotion of the full humanity of all women everywhere. We know that whatever denies, diminishes, or distorts the full humanity of women is not of God.

Help us to be faithful to your call to love. Amen.

REFLECTION

By Richard Leonard

In the second year of the Jesuit novitiate, the Jesuit novices are dropped around 140km from their first house in Australia at Sevenhill in South Australia. He has eight days to walk the distance and beg for food and accommodation. He cannot tell anyone who he is or what he is doing.

One Jesuit writes,

'It's the only time in my life I've been remotely in what we could call a wilderness and I have known hunger.

'There were many knockbacks, but there were a few occasions when people were extraordinarily generous.

'We are told that we cannot trade off being a Jesuit, but if we are invited into someone's home we can tell them who we are, so that they will not be frightened that they have welcomed Jack the Ripper to stay the night. If the person has offered the garage and a sandwich, however, we cannot use our being a Jesuit to get an upgrade from economy to first class!

'One woman who welcomed me into her home questioned me at length about where was I from, where was I going and how I got here. Then she declared, "I think I can trust ya". So she ushered me into her home, offered a meal that night, breakfast the next day and her guest room.

'I told this woman who I was and complimented her on her extraordinary generosity.

"Well listen sunshine", she said, "let's face it, I knew you were OK, 'cause you're the most beautifully spoken, articulate beggar I've ever met."

In today's Gospel we are told that Jesus was tempted in the wilderness for 40 days. Numbers are never randomly used in the Bible. 1, 3, 7, 12 and 40 all have specific meanings. 40 indicates a time of formation. Luke tells us that Jesus confronts evil head-on and is tempted in every way that we are.

We often feel alone when faced with difficult choices and temptations, but, especially at these moments, there are four things we need to remember:

Temptation is not sin. Only when we freely and knowingly choose to act on temptation is sin involved. Though one may like to talk about the temptations one has in Reconciliation, we never have to 'confess' them as though they are sinful actions.

When we look at our temptations they often appear as good things, but often they have a sting in the tail which is destructive. We need to be very alert to all the consequences of what we do and say, and learn from our experiences.

The more we give into temptation, the more immune we become to seeing that there's anything wrong with what we are doing. We can develop whole habits in our living, deceiving ourselves that what we are doing is 'not that bad'.

St Ignatius Loyola, the founder of the Jesuits, tells us in *The Spiritual Exercises* that the worst temptations are greed, pride and riches. This comes as a surprise to Catholics who have been told for too long that sex is number one. Ignatius says that we should be wise in how we deal with temptations: name what's going on, and attend to the pattern of the temptation quickly and consistently.

As John B. Metz, says, 'We can say that the three temptations in the desert are three assaults on the poverty of Jesus ... What Satan fears most is the powerlessness of God in the humanity he assumed ... so he appeals to Jesus' divinity, he wants God to remain God ...but Jesus subjected himself to our plight and opted for us as we are.'

We should take great comfort from this: there is no path of temptation along which Jesus has not gone ahead of us to show us we can choose life ahead of death.

That's what Lent is always about – a yearly season where we are encouraged to keep embracing life and live it to the full.

© Richard Leonard SJ

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>

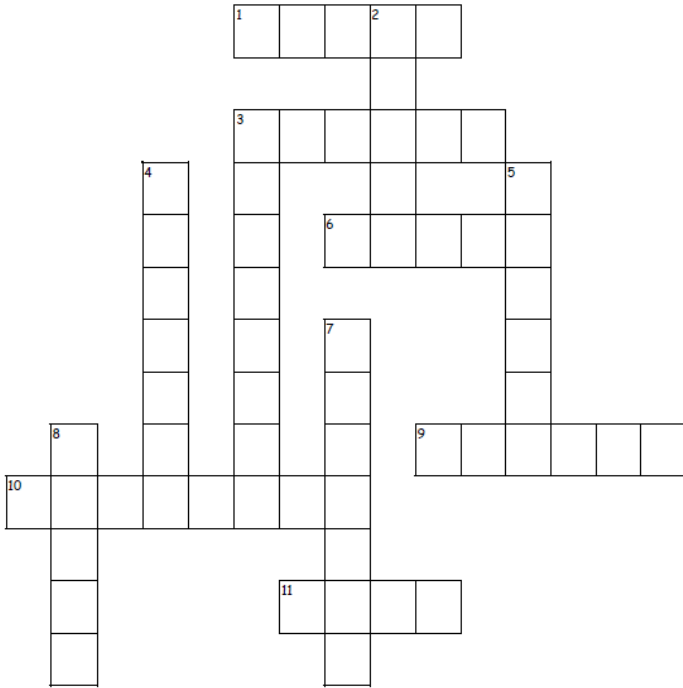
Contact: Rose McAllister

rose.mcallister@mn.catholic.org.au

CROSSWORD

In times of trouble the Lord is by my side

Dt 26:4-10
Ps 91:1-2, 10-11 R.(see 15b)
Mt 4:4b
Lk 4:1-13



Across

- 1: food made from grains
- 3: Jesus was _____ by the devil
- 6: used to make bread
- 9: a barren, sandy environment
- 10: a large fortified place
- 11: a white liquid drink

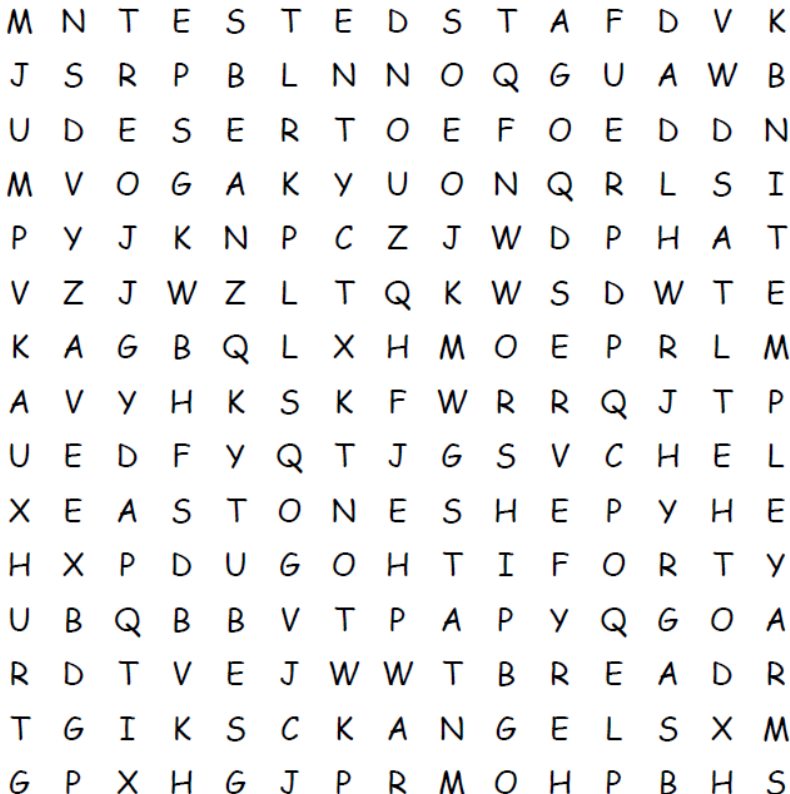
Down

- 2: offerings to God are placed on an _____
- 3: awful, bad
- 4: keep safe from harm
- 5: God's special messengers
- 7: praise and give thanks to God
- 8: the number of days Jesus was in the desert

JUNIOR WORDSEARCH

The Holy Spirit led Jesus into the desert

Lk 4:1-13



Try to find these words:

- angels
- arms
- bread
- desert
- forty
- hurt
- jump
- serve
- stones
- temple
- tested
- worship

TODAY'S LITURGY

Entrance Antiphon Cf. Ps 90:15-16

When he calls on me, I will answer him;
I will deliver him and give him glory,
I will grant him length of days.

First Reading Dt 26:4-10

The confession of faith of the elect.

Responsorial Psalm Ps 90:1-2. 10-15. R. v.15

(R.) Be with me, Lord, when I am in trouble.

1. He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High and abides in the shade of the Almighty says to the Lord: 'My refuge, my stronghold, my God in whom I trust!' (R.)
2. Upon you no evil shall fall, no plague approach where you dwell. For you has he commanded his angels, to keep you in all your ways. (R.)
3. They shall bear you upon their hands lest you strike your foot against a stone. On the lion and the viper you will tread and trample the young lion and the dragon. (R.)
4. His love he set on me, so I will rescue him; protect him for he knows my name. When he calls I shall answer: 'I am with you.' I will save him in distress and give him glory. (R.)

Second Reading Rom 10:8-13

The confession of faith of the believers in Christ.

Gospel Acclamation Mt 4:4

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!
No one lives on bread alone,
but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.
Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!

Gospel Lk 4:1-13

Filled with the Holy Spirit, Jesus was led by the Spirit through the wilderness where he was tempted.

Communion Antiphon Mt 4:4

One does not live by bread alone,
but by every word that comes forth from the mouth of
God.

© The scriptural quotations are taken from the Jerusalem Bible, published and copyright 1966, 1967 and 1968 by Darton Longman and Todd Ltd and Doubleday & Co Inc, and used by permission of the publishers.

LIVING THE GOSPEL

Lent

The 40 days that Jesus spent praying and preparing in the wilderness is reflected in the season of Lent that lasts 40 days from Ash Wednesday until the day before Easter Sunday (not counting Sundays in the season). It has been traditional that during the time of Lent Christian people renew their efforts in prayer, fasting and almsgiving. All three of these practices are actions of preparation. Just as Jesus prepared for his ministry in the wilderness, so too is Lent an opportunity for us to be deliberate about our reflection on what we are called to do in this world.

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

THE CHUCKLE

I just want to thank the guy who lent me his dictionary to look for the meaning of the word plethora...
It means a lot.