



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 24 APRIL 2022

SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER, YEAR C

Our Clergy

Fr John Lovell
Fr Peter Thoai
Fr John Vo

Regional Office—St Benedict's Centre

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E: newcparish@mn.catholic.org.au
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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



When Jesus appears to the disciples, in the reading from John, he meets them where they are – in material reality. The experience of the divine is mediated through the familiar things of this world: Jesus shows them the marks of crucifixion on his body and he breathes the Holy Spirit into them. This is a sensual experience. Thomas, however, is being too concrete and at first he refuses to move beyond the sensual so Jesus allows him a visual and tactile experience, but a leap of intuitive faith is expected of Thomas in the end.

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)

Second Sunday of Easter, Year C

Monday—25th April

Anzac Day

8:00am Mass @ The Cathedral **

Please note the different time

Tuesday—26th April

Feast of St Mark, evangelist

8:15am Mass @ The Cathedral

Wednesday—27th April

8:00am Mass @ The Cathedral**

Please note the different time

9:00am Mass @ Mayfield West—CANCELLED

9:15am Mass @ Tighes Hill—CANCELLED

Thursday—28th April

Memorial of St Peter Chanel

8:15am Mass @ The Cathedral

8:30am Mass @ Stockton

Friday—29th April

Memorial of St Catherine of Siena

10:15am Mass @ The Junction

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

12:05pm Mass @ The Cathedral

Saturday—30th April

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

5:00pm Mass @ Mayfield West

5:30pm Mass @ The Cathedral

5:30pm Mass @ The Junction

Sunday—1st May

Third Sunday of Easter, 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*

PARISH OFFICE CLOSURE

The Office will be closed Monday 25th April
for Anzac Day.

WELCOME

Welcome Fr John Lovell in the role of Moderator of
the City Pastoral Region and Rector of the Cathedral
(in the temporary format of administrator).

VIEW, CHEW, AND CHAT

The schedule for April and May is:

April 27: No Meeting

May 4: Bible Study

May 11: Lectio

May 18: Lectio

May 25: Lectio

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

BOOK CLUB

Sunday, 1st May @ 6:15pm to discuss *The
Happiest Man on Earth* by Eddie Jaku. If
you would like to participate in book club
meetings, please email
newcparish@mn.catholic.org.au

I ♥
Book Club

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

PRAYER REQUESTS

RECENTLY DECEASED: Giovanna Gerardi,
Anna Bartole, Catherine Vallone, Norma
Rendina, Bernard Mervin

ANNIVERSARIES: Maria Chocholowski

SICK: Maree Halbert, Carlo Rossi, Kath Murray,
Veronica McCann, Wayne Bishop, Peter Skinner, Peter
Keddie, Tiani Bishop, Jason Yu, Joel Samy, Tom Parker,
Max Williamson, Sam and Margaret Broad



*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:

Acts 5:27-32, 40-41

Rv 5:11-14

Jn 21: 1-19

FROM THE MODERATOR

Dear Friends,

May I begin by thanking you all for having me as the new Moderator of the Newcastle Pastoral Region and Rector of the Sacred Heart Cathedral. I feel very honoured to have been appointed to these roles by our Diocesan Administrator, Fr Greg



Barker, and I know I will have incredibly big shoes to fill in taking over these roles from Fr Andrew.

Ever since my appointment was announced in late February, so many kind souls from across the region have sent me messages of welcome, support and congratulations, that I feel I am very much among friends here. Fr Andrew, our wonderful office staff, sacristans and many others have gone out of their way to make me feel at home and help me settle in. I also look forward to working with Fathers Peter, John, Bob and Matthew and other support clergy who minister so generously across our various Mass centres.

Finally, I'd like to wish Fr Andrew – and I'm sure you'll all join me in this – a very well-deserved and relaxing 3 months break, with gratitude for the amazing work he has done in serving not only our parishes here in the inner city, but the whole Diocese in very challenging times, especially during COVID lockdowns and in the final months of our late Bishop Bill's illness.

As we journey forward together in this Easter Season, I pray we will all enjoy the great peace and joy of the Risen Lord.

Love,
Fr John Lovell

IGNATIAN ECOSPIRITUAL CONFERENCE

You are invited to join the Newcastle hub of the International Ignatian Ecospiritual Conference, 26 - 30 April 2022. <https://iiec.org.au/>

A group of up to eight people will gather each day 9.15-11.30am in inner Newcastle to hear the conference speakers and discuss our responses. During the day, we will spend time with God in different settings (either individually or with the group). Later in the day, we will gather to share our experiences (either in person or online). Registration is up to \$200. For more information contact Lawrie 0419 447 217 or lah.yallourn@gmail.com.

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.

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

E-PETITION

An online petition to abolish Alex Greenwich's Voluntary Assisted Dying Bill 2021 (*VAD*) in the NSW Parliament is available at:

[LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL - Signing ePetition - Please
unanimously reject the Voluntary Assisted Dying Bill
2021 \(nsw.gov.au\)](https://www.nsw.gov.au/legislative-council/signing-ePetition)

An excellent article regarding the legislation that appeared in the Catholic Weekly may be viewed at <https://www.catholicweekly.com.au/nsw-dying-bill-danger/>

The 'ePetition' is open until 25 April 2022.

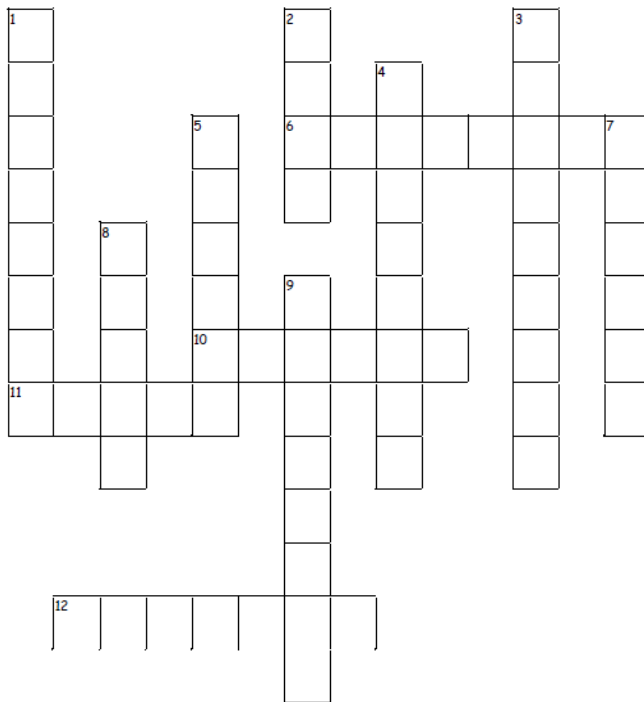
DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY

3pm Devotions in Mayfield West church this Sunday (24th April), for Divine Mercy Sunday

CROSSWORD

Jesus calls us to believe in him

Acts 5:12-16
Ps 118:2 and 4, 13-14, R. v.1
Jn 20:19-29



Across

- 6: Jesus' closest disciples
- 10: frightened or scared
- 11: marks left by a healed wound
- 12: welcomed

Down

- 1: amazing feats performed by Jesus, the Apostles and saints
- 2: make better, cure
- 3: people who follow
- 4: not believing
- 5: the apostle who doubted that Jesus had risen
- 7: a dark image cast by an object blocking the light
- 8: long, pointed weapon
- 9: worried

JUNIOR WORDSEARCH

Jesus calls us to believe in him

Acts 5:12-16
Ps 118:2 and 4, 13-14, R. v.1
Jn 20:19-29

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

Try to find these words:

afraid
apostles
doubting
followers
greeted
heal
miracles
scars
shadow
spear
Thomas
troubled

SCRIPTURE COMMENTARY

by Brendan Byrne SJ

It is understandable that the Church should celebrate the octave of Easter by reading each year the episode in the Fourth Gospel where the risen Lord appears to Thomas 'eight days later' (20:19-31). While it is natural to concentrate on the moving interaction between Jesus and Thomas, it is important not to neglect the highly significant events that take place on the earlier occasion, late on Easter Sunday.

In the course of the long discourse Jesus gave to his disciples at the supper on the night before he died, he promised over and over that they would receive 'another Paraclete' (the Spirit), to be their guide, enlightener and comforter for the time when he would no longer be with them in the physical sense. Now on this Easter evening ('the first day of the week') he makes good that promise in what is really the 'Johannine Pentecost'.

The scene begins with the disciples fearful and huddling behind closed doors. Jesus comes among them and reassures them ('Peace be with you'), showing them the physical reality of his hands and his side to guarantee his identity and continuity with the Lord they had known. This established, their fear turned to joy as he announces that they are to be the new link in the chain of mission that he has from the Father: as the Father has sent him into the world – to be the embodiment of divine love in the world – so he now sends them, to be in their turn and through their mutual love for one another, the embodiment of that same divine love (13:34-35; 17:17).

Jesus then imparts the Spirit to the disciples by breathing on them (the same Greek word *pneuma* serves for both 'breath' and 'spirit'). He goes on to explain this gift of the Spirit in terms of the disciples' power to forgive – and correspondingly to retain – sin. We might well ask why the specification of the gift of the Spirit in this way. Basically, it has to do with reconciliation: the reconciliation of the human race to the Father, which is the essential work of Jesus. At the beginning of his public career John the Baptist had pointed him out as 'the Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world' (1:29, 35). Jesus had died on the cross as the (Paschal) Lamb whose bones were not broken (19:36). Now the gift of the Spirit is empowering the Church to take up that mission for the new time when Jesus will no longer be physically present.

Thomas is one of the most clearly defined characters in the Fourth Gospel. Born loser, realist, pessimist, he

has missed out on the Easter night appearance of Jesus. He won't believe in the resurrection simply on the other disciples' claim 'we have seen the Lord'. He lays down his explicit, highly 'physical' conditions.

With the divine courtesy that seems to be a feature of the risen Lord in all the appearance stories of the gospels, Jesus, eight days later, is prepared to meet Thomas' conditions exactly. But, at the sight of Jesus, Thomas abandons them. Instead he, the late-comer, the obtuse one, makes the most exalted act of faith contained in the gospel: 'My Lord and my God!' The confession takes us back to the Prologue: '... the Word was with God and the Word was God' (1:1); 'No one has ever seen God; it is God the only Son, who is close to the Father's heart, who has made him known' (1:18). At this climactic moment of the gospel it is Thomas, the hesitant, the doubter, who brings out the full identity of Jesus.

But that is not the end. Jesus adds a comment that brings us into the picture too. Thomas has believed because, like Mary Magdalene and the other disciples present in the room, he has seen the risen Jesus. Others – succeeding generations of believers – will not see Jesus. Unlike Thomas, they have to believe simply on the report handed down in the Church's preaching: 'We have seen the Lord.' On them – on us, that is – Jesus pronounces a blessing: 'Blessed are those who have not seen and yet believe.'

Why 'blessed'? Because from them/us a faith greater than that of Thomas and the others will be required: the greater the faith the more scope for the power of God.

So the first edition of the Gospel (chapters 1-20) ends with this solemn assurance that believers of all subsequent generations are in no way at a disadvantage compared to the original disciples who saw and heard and touched the Lord. The written gospel imparts to those prepared to believe all the knowledge necessary for a life-giving encounter with the Lord.

© Brendan Byrne SJ



NEWCASTLE TUDOR SINGERS

FOR PEACE

For Peace: A concert on Anzac Day, Monday April 25 at 2:30pm in Sacred Heart Cathedral. The concert features the *Mass for the Armed Man* by Kurt Jenkins and Prayer for Ukraine—the spiritual anthem of the Ukraine.

LOUD SKY COMMUNITY ART WORKSHOPS

22ND APRIL – 9TH JUNE, 2022



During 2022 a series of art workshops will be offered to link the experience and stories of survivors of institutional child sexual abuse, their families, and friends, with the creative possibility of the arts in the lead up to the Loud Sky Exhibition at the Lock Up in 2023.

WORKSHOPS:

Mixed Media Expression

An opportunity to explore different materials and a playful sense of expression. Grab some paper and art material and began with a few moments of silence, take a few deep breaths and relax into your breath. An invitation for participants to be present and focus on this time as selfcare.

This workshop will be presented by Dr Helena Bezzina, an artist and art-educator, who has also worked in galleries and museums in the area of health and wellbeing.

TIME: 3 – 4.30PM

DATES: Every Thursday beginning 5th May to 9th June 2022 (6 workshops in total)

WHERE: Museum of Art and Culture Lake Macquarie (MAC) 1A First St Booragul

Beyond Borders – Working with Textiles

Forget the perfect stitches of the school room, this workshop is about moving outside those boundaries to push the limits of what can be achieved with thread, fabric, paper, paints and found materials. It is as much about the process as the product. Exploring beyond borders and playing with a variety of materials.

This workshop will be presented by Ann-Maree Kelly, a visual artist who works with watercolours and textiles.

TIME: 10 – 11.30AM

DATES: Every Friday beginning 22nd April to 27th May 2022 (6 workshops in total)

WHERE: The Creator Incubator, 15A/50 Clyde St, Hamilton North 2292

Gratitude through Narrative Photography

This workshop invites participants to explore everyday gratitude through the medium of photography. It will also be an opportunity to learn new skills with photography. Participants will be offered instruction on the technical aspects of photography working with any form of camera they have (i.e.: smart phone, digital camera, DSLR, film camera) as well as post production edits such as cropping, colour, black and whites, and minor retouching. We will work towards choosing a selection of images that best reflect participants ideas on everyday gratitude which will be printed for presentation..

This workshop will be presented by photographer and art therapist, Danielle Minett.

TIME: 10 – 11.30AM

DATES: Every Monday from 2nd May to 6th June 2022 (6 workshops in total)

WHERE: The Lock-Up, 90 Hunter Newcastle 2300



HAVE YOU thought?

Does he mean us?

When Thomas made his declaration of faith, Jesus said, 'You believe because you can see me. Happy (or Blessed) are those who have not seen and yet believe.' (v29) Because this gospel was written 60 years or so after the time of Jesus, there were indeed many who believed but had not ever seen him. The blessing is on all those who believe without the benefit of a physical encounter of Jesus. Whilst the gospel was written as an acknowledgement of those at the end of the 1st Century, it is also a blessing and encouragement for believers of today!

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

CARITAS AUTUMN NEWSLETTER

The Caritas Autumn newsletter is now available online at <https://www.caritas.org.au/news/our-magazine/>. Check out their latest news and stories from overseas and in Australia.

DIOCESAN APP

Coming soon this month!

The Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle is delighted to announce the launch of our new mobile app for smartphones and tablets.

The new app is our latest innovation in staying connected with Catholics in the Diocese. Mass times, news and events, and parish giving, are now right at your fingertips.

What's new?

All your parish essentials are in the palm of your hand. As part of the Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle's new app, you are able to:

1. Check Mass times for any day of the week for your local church or any Parish within the Diocese.
2. Find the closest Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle church to you based on your location.
3. Read the latest news from parishes and/or the Diocese
4. Find out more about upcoming parish and Diocese events.
5. View daily prayers.
6. View homilies prepared by your Priest.
7. Setup regular electronic parish giving.

Contribute to one-off, specific local parish fundraising events electronically.

As part of the new app, you are also able to select your Church and receive customised alerts. To view your latest Parish updates, simply scroll down the home page and click on the notices that interest you for more details.

Mass times in your area

Whether you're at home or travelling, the Diocese's mobile app shows you Churches and Mass times near you.

If you're looking to attend a special Mass in your Parish, or you're just not sure about upcoming Mass times near you, simply searching in the app by your location allows you to find service times in your area.

How to download the app

You can download the app for free from the [Apple App Store](#) and [Google Play Store](#). Just search for 'Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle' and click install on your mobile or tablet!

If you already have the original app installed, this will automatically update to the new version.

Please click on the link for more information

<https://www.mn.catholic.org.au/mass-times-app/>

THE CREEDS

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.

THE APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
Creator of heaven and earth;
and in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord;
Who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended into hell;
on the third day He arose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of God, the Father Al-
mighty; from there He shall come to judge the living
and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Holy Catholic Church,
the communion of Saints, the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body and life everlasting.
Amen.

THE CHOSEN DISCUSSION GROUPS

Season One

You are invited to The Chosen Season One Discussion group. During the session we will recap the highlights of the episode and be guided on a journey both personal and communal. We will explore as a group the human nature of Jesus as he calls his chosen to be missionary disciples.

Date: Tuesday 26 April – 14 June

Time: 6.30pm-8pm

Register: <https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/the-chosen-season-1-discussion-group-2022-tickets-301240427227>

Season Two

You are invited to The Chosen Season Two Discussion group. During the session we will recap the highlights of the episode and be guided on a journey both personal and communal. We will explore as a group the human nature of Jesus as he builds his community and the threats that exist to tear it down.

Date: Thursday 28 April – 16 June

Time: 6.30pm-8pm

Register: <https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/the-chosen-season-2-discussion-group-2022-tickets-301246655857>

MYSTAGOGY MONDAY

Mystagogical reflection invites us into a personal encounter with Christ in the gospel we have heard, the liturgy we have celebrated, or an experience of life or ministry. It invites us to pay attention to what Christ reveals to us, both in that encounter and the living tradition of our faith and to connect it to life now. It invites us to dialogue and transformation.

Join us each Monday morning as we reveal the mystery of God found in the Sunday Gospel.

Commencing 9 May at 10am

PRAYER FOR UKRAINE

On Friday 29th April at St. Joseph's Church the Junction, the Rosary and prayers will be said for all Ukrainians associated with the horrendous War. We will begin at 9.40am (before Friday Mass at 10.15am). Anyone wishing to attend would be most welcome.