



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 8 MAY 2022

FOURTH 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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Our Staff

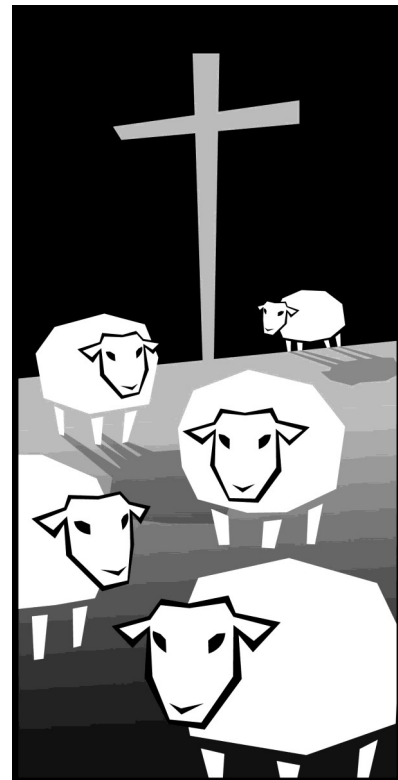
Margaret Cox (*Reception & Administration*)
Maryanne Hewitt (*Reception & Administration*)
Anne Warren (*Business Manager Finance*)
Jade Simonsen (*Business Manager Property*)
Dr Anne Millard (*Music, Liturgy, Sacraments, Bulletin*)

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



In the gospels, Jesus describes himself as a vine, a gate, the way etc, but the favourite image for many people is the Good Shepherd. The image is appealing because it evokes a tender sense of the nurture, protection and guidance which are integral to a shepherd's role

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)

Fourth Sunday of Easter, Year C

Monday—9th May

8:15am Mass @ The Cathedral

Tuesday—10th May

8:15am Mass @ The Cathedral

8:30am Mass @ Stockton

Wednesday—11th May

8:15am Mass @ The Cathedral

9:00am Mass @ Mayfield West

9:15am Mass @ Tighes Hill

Thursday—12th May

8:15am Mass @ The Cathedral

8:30am Mass @ Stockton

Friday—13th May

9.00 am Mass @ Mayfield West

10:15am Mass @ The Junction

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

12:05pm Mass @ The Cathedral

Saturday—14th May

Feast of St Matthias, Apostle

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—15th May

Fifth 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 **

5.30pm Mass @ Mayfield West (*Vietnamese*)

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

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS:

First Reading

Acts 14:21-27

Second Reading

Rv 21:1-5

Gospel

Jn 13:31-35

THANK YOU

Thank you to those who so generously support the St Vincent de Paul FLOOD APPEAL. To date over \$13,500+ has been received.



NEWCASTLE CATHOLIC CHARISMATIC RENEWAL

Newcastle Catholic Charismatic Renewal invites all people to the **GIFTS of the HOLY SPIRIT** Seminars/ Workshops run by the Missionaries of God's Love (MGL) Sisters on Saturday 21/5/22 and Saturday 28/5/22 10am-4pm at the Holy Cross Church Hall, 30 Oakland St Glendale. Cost: donation. Please contact Wayne Caruana on 0466 631394 for further information.

VIEW, CHEW, AND CHAT

May 4: Bible Study, May 11 and 18 Lectio

May 25: No meeting

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

BOOK CLUB

Sunday, 6th June @ 6:15pm to discuss *The Book of Longings* by Sue Monk Kidd. If you would like to participate in book club meetings, please email newcparish@mn.catholic.org.au



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: Marco Torti (inFrance), Wayne Bishop, Sr Patricia Byron OLN

ANNIVERSARIES: Nunziata Murri, Barry Dwyer

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

Names may be placed here by contacting the Parish Office. Please refer to the Policy Document on the Parish website—visit



PRAYERS FOR UKRAINE

Every Friday in May in St Josephs 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.

HOUSING NEEDS FOR HUMANITARIAN ENTRANTS/ REFUGEES IN NEWCASTLE AND SURROUNDS

Settlement Services International (SSI) assist newly arrived refugees to resettle in Newcastle through the Humanitarian Settlement Program (HSP).

The tragic events taking place in Afghanistan has led to an influx of Afghan families into our region. Unfortunately, the current housing crisis in Newcastle means many families pass extended periods in short term housing, which greatly impacts well-being and the feeling of being 'at home'.

SSI are looking for landlords willing to commence tenancies with our clients. Families will pay market rent and be fully supported by their SSI Case Managers. We are looking for 2-4 bedroom properties in Newcastle. Any assistance is greatly appreciated.

Contact Helen Larkin for more information.
hlarkin@ssi.org.au

FEDERAL ELECTION

Read the Australian Catholic Bishops' 2022 election statement, Towards a Better Kind of Politics, to help you reflect on the good you can do for the community by using your vote for the common good of all. The statement includes a Prayer for the Election and the principles of Catholic Social Teaching. Download a copy from www.catholic.org.au

Happy Mother's Day

Wishing all mothers, grandmothers and great grandmothers a very happy Mother's Day. May we always appreciate those who have shown us motherly love and care.

Cards are available on which to write the name of your mother. Bring the card forward during the preparation of gifts (before the offertory procession.)



FROM THE MODERATOR

Dear friends,



As many of you may have already heard, Fr John Vo is leaving us. Our Diocesan Administrator Fr Greg Barker has re-assigned him to serve in the Maitland Region of Parishes effective from 22 May 2022, which will be his last Sunday with us in the City Pastoral Region. After leaving us Fr John will immediately go on a well-deserved holiday for some weeks before commencing ministry in the Maitland Region of Parishes on his return. His departure will be a huge loss for us and leaves us with only two resident priests in the City Pastoral Region. Unfortunately, due to clergy shortages right across our Diocese we will not be receiving anyone to replace Fr John. As a result, we will need to re-assess how many Masses we can continue to celebrate both on Sundays and during the week. We are very grateful to Fr Bob Searle and Fr Matthew Muller for their ongoing assistance, and Fr Greg who is currently assisting with a number of our Sunday evening Masses in the Cathedral while Fr Matthew is on leave.

On another matter, this weekend we are sending out to our Mass centres copies of a petition issued by Right to Life NSW opposing the Voluntary Assisted Dying Bill 2021. You are invited to sign this if you haven't already signed the online petition, as the Church believes good palliative care is the best and most ethical way of assisting our terminally ill loved ones in their time of greatest need.

My thanks to all of you for your ongoing prayerful support and especially to our many volunteers for all the wonderful work they are doing. May the Lord richly bless you all.

Fr John Lovell

WHY JOHN?

You may have noticed that during the Easter season, we have been hearing exclusively from the gospel of John. But aren't we in Year C of the liturgical cycle – the year of Luke? Well, yes, but ... The gospel of the year is predominantly proclaimed during Ordinary Time. However, there is no Year of John. This gospel is read during the Easter season and at other specific feasts and seasons. As the synoptic gospels focus on the life and ministry of Jesus, the theological and metaphoric nature of John's gospel is much more suited to the post-



CATHOLIC EARTHCARE - LAUDATO SI' WEEK 16 - 24 MAY

As this celebration approaches, Caritas is encouraging you to take a look at the Catholic Earthcare process for parishes via the green button at <https://catholicearthcare.org.au>. Catholic Earthcare has made it easy for parishes to take up the Bishops' invitation to journey towards these 7 goals and to becoming living Laudato Si' communities. They invite you to join the growing number of Earthcare parishes across the nation who've begun this journey.

As part of Catholic Earthcare's celebration of Laudato Si' Week, they are hosting an online screening of the newly released 'Regenerating Australia' short film - a fictitious news segment set on New Year's Eve 2029, examining the decade that 'could be'. The film challenges us to consider how we respond to the Cry of the Earth. The event will be joined by Bishop Ken Howell and a range of guest speakers to share in this celebration. After the film, there will be a panel discussion and question time regarding how we can take the teachings of the film and respond as Catholics here in Australia.

You are welcome to join by yourself, or register a parish group for the viewing. [Please note if registering for a group, only 1 person need register via Trybooking]. The video will be streamed via zoom so you can watch together on a large screen at a suitable venue like a parish hall.

The online event will be held on Tuesday 17th May from 6pm - 8pm AEST, 4pm - 6pm AWST. Bookings at: <https://www.trybooking.com/BZADT>

AUTUMN RETREAT MURRURUNDI

an ecumenical day of quiet contemplation, reflection on the season, imagining and nature. St Paul's Church Hall Saturday 14th May 2022 10-2.30pm Morning Tea will be provided, Please bring your own lunch or purchase from nearby Café.

All welcome. Contacts: Amanda 0401 373 481 mandywharton@yahoo.com Lindy 0417 013 055

CHRISTIAN FORMATION COURSE

Are you wanting to know more about Christianity and develop a deeper understanding of the Catholic Church?

The Christian Formation Course is a learning experience that allows participants to explore the foundational elements of the Catholic Faith Tradition in community. This course introduces participants to scripture, theology, church history, sacramental life and liturgy.


The Course runs across twelve (12) months and comprises eight (8) units

All who complete the Course are awarded a diocesan Certificate in Christian Formation

By engaging in the course, it is hoped participants will:

- become more confident in understanding the Catholic faith, grow in their capacity to reflect on their life's journey
- realise that Christian faith is nurtured in community
- be affirmed in their gifts for participating in the life of the faith community
- grow in awareness of what it means to be a responsive member of the faith community.

The course will commence in July 2022. For more information go to: www.mn.catholic.org.au/church-mission/catholic-life/faith-formation/christian-formation-course



Have you thought?

Eternal life

In the gospel passage, Jesus says of the sheep that belong to him, "I give them eternal life." He does not say, I give them the promise of eternal life. The message that comes through the gospel of John is clear that eternal life is not some future existence, but rather a new way of being in the here and now. But that is not to suggest that there is not an 'eternal' quality to eternal life. The gospel of John makes clear that eternal life begins in the here and now but has no end.

REFLECTION

BY RICHARD LEONARD

The Shawshank Redemption was the hit film of 1994. In it we follow the incarceration and escape plans of Tim Robbins and Morgan Freeman. Robbins is condemned to life imprisonment for the murder of his wife and her lover. Freeman says he is the 'only guilty man in Shawshank Prison'. Based on Stephen King's novella, this uplifting film is a surprise package from a writer whose fame comes from the horror genre.

The longer we watch the film, the more we realise that Stephen King has modelled his story on the Gospel of John. It is, in many respects a more modern parable about John's portrait of Jesus. Tim Robbins' character, Andy, like Jesus, is an innocent man, treated harshly by the authorities of his day. He has to endure the condemnation and cruelty of the leading religious zealots who are keepers of law and order, while he inspires others to think of a world free of subjection and oppression where they can be free to live the life of which they dream. Like John's Jesus, Andy has big dreams and often talks in riddles, but he leaves clues for others to follow him in their quest for freedom.

In the last part of the film, after Andy has successfully escaped and the governor of the prison has been exposed for the hypocrite he is, Freeman is paroled after serving 35 years hard labour. He decides to go where Andy has gone and, just as Andy promised when they were together in prison, he finds that Andy has prepared the way for him to follow. The moving climax of the film comes as Robbins and Freeman meet on a beach, embrace each other and share food and drink to celebrate the new life both of them have discovered.

Stephen King understands John's portrait of Jesus very well. For all of Jesus' assuredness and composure throughout the Gospel, the sense of care and intimacy in the encounters with his friends is deeply moving.

In the Easter Gospel to which we have just listened, Jesus returns to where his friends have fled from Jerusalem. In a parable about the growing numbers of the early Church, the Eucharist and the suffering they are enduring, John reaffirms that Jesus is intimately present in their following of him and their suffering for the Kingdom. The only sense John can make of Jesus' death, the martyrdom of the apostles or the persecution of the early church is to see them all as acts of love. 'No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends.'

Those of us who have been caught up in the net of God's love are heirs to the same promises of Jesus'

fidelity. Christ is intimately present to us in every act of loving sacrifice we undertake for him. He continues to send us out to tell people of the place that has been prepared for them at the banquet of life and he gives us strength to gird our loins for the times when life takes us to places we would rather not go.

In this Eucharist let's be grateful for this Easter season when we celebrate again that we have been set free from the prison of our fears and shown the way to live a life of sacrificial love and undeserved redemption.

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CATHOLIC THEOLOGICAL COLLEGE

Series of short sessions: online via Zoom

Engaging Your Faith

Choose one, choose all, choose what interests you and all for just \$25 per session, running 3 to 28 May 2022

Booking, payment and further information:

ctc.edu.au/engaging-your-faith/

HAPPY MOTHERS DAY

On behalf of all our clergy and parish staff, we would like to wish all the mothers in our communities, together with our lovely religious Sisters, a very blessed and happy Mothers Day. May our Blessed Virgin Mother Mary keep you all safe and watch over you always.

JUNIOR WORDSEARCH

God has chosen us for eternal life

Acts 13:43-44, 47-48
Ps 100:1-2, 3, 5 R.v.3c
Jn 10:27-30

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

Try to find these words:

Barnabas
command
disciples
faithful
Gentiles
greater
hand
lost
message
Sabbath
sheep
voice

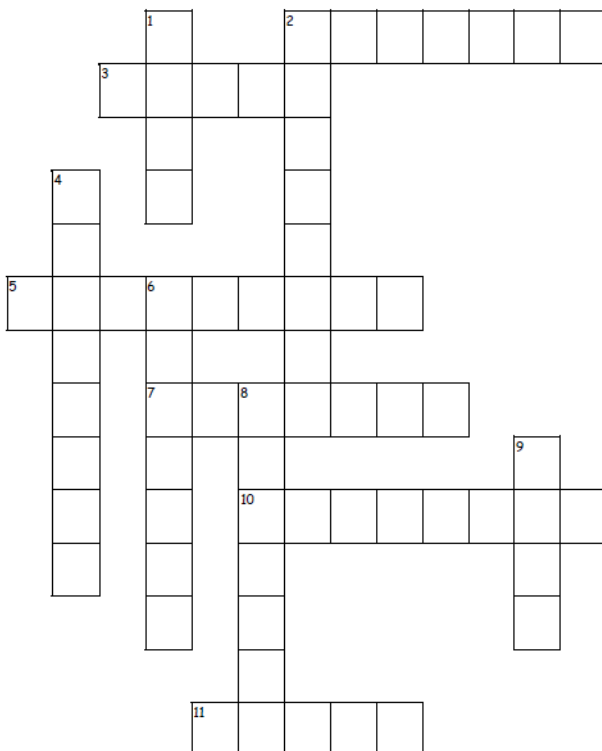
4th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year C [N04EASUC_2004_WS3.rtf]

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CROSSWORD

God has chosen us for eternal life

Acts 13:43-44, 47-48
Ps 100:1-2, 3, 5 R.v.3c
Jn 10:27-30



Across

- 2: bigger, more impressive
- 3: the sound of someone speaking
- 5: followers of Jesus
- 7: information that is passed on to someone else
- 10: the Apostle who preached with Paul
- 11: an animal that produces wool

Down

- 1: missing
- 2: non Jews
- 4: to be filled with faith
- 6: an instruction or order
- 8: holy day of rest
- 9: the body part that has fingers and a thumb

Across

4th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year C [N04EASUC_2004_CW3.rtf]

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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

The Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle's new app is available now! Mass times, news and events, and parish giving will be just a tap away.

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.

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!

To learn more about the app, visit www.mn.catholic.org.au/mass-times-app

CATHOLIC CHARISMATIC RENEWAL (CCR) PRESENCE AND POWER CONFERENCE 2022

The Presence and Power conference is being held 21st -22nd May. Since the January retreat cancellation, there is a change of location and it is day registration only; this is a wonderful opportunity to come together again, to be refreshed and renewed.

There are two ways to register for the conference.

Online link is: <https://form.jotform.com/220861063612852>

For more information, contact email@ccrns.org.au



COMMUNITY WALK WITH FORMER REFUGEES

**SUNDAY 15 MAY
11AM - 2PM, MAITLAND**

Connecting local Australians & people with refugee experience for a community walk and talk.

Walk. Talk. Connect.
#WelcomeRefugees

Register now at [Eventbrite.com.au](https://www.eventbrite.com.au): search "OneStep Maitland" for details

info@onestepwalks.org
onestepwalks.org

 NORTHERN SETTLEMENT SERVICES LIMITED

 OneStep

TODAY'S LITURGY

Entrance Antiphon: Cf. Ps 32:5-6

The merciful love of the Lord fills the earth;
by the word of the Lord the heavens were made,
alleluia.

First Reading: Acts 13:14, 43-52

We are now turning to the gentiles.

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 99:1-3. 5. R. v.3

(R.) We are his people, the sheep of his flock.

1. Cry out with joy to the Lord, all the earth.
Serve the Lord with gladness.
Come before him, singing for joy. (R.)
2. Know that he, the Lord, is God.
He made us, we belong to him,
we are his people, the sheep of his flock. (R.)
3. Indeed, how good is the Lord,
eternal his merciful love.
He is faithful from age to age. (R.)

Second Reading: Rv 7:9, 14-17

*The Lamb who is at the throne will be their shepherd
and will lead them to springs of living water*

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!
I am the good shepherd, says the Lord;
I know my sheep, and mine know me.
Alleluia!

Gospel: Jn 10:27-30

I give my sheep eternal life.

Communion Antiphon: Lk 24:35

The Good Shepherd has risen,
who laid down his life for his sheep
and willingly died for his flock, alleluia.



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

A PRAYER FOR MAY

May you be happy
May you stay healthy
May you feel safe
May you find comfort
May you sense peace
May you give love
May you possess courage
May you have faith
May you spread joy
May you be kind

