



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 5 JUNE 2022

PENTECOST SUNDAY, YEAR C

Our Clergy

Fr John Lovell
Fr Peter Thoai

Regional Office—St Benedict's Centre

25 Farquhar Street, The Junction
PO Box 6, The Junction 2291
P: (02) 4979 1101 F: (02) 4962 4644
E: newcparish@mn.catholic.org.au
W: www.newcastlecatholic.org.au
W: www.sacredhearthamilton.org.au

Our Staff

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

Other Contacts

Lingard Hospital Team: Contact the Parish Office

Mercy Pastoral Team: Sr Patricia Whitten rsm
(02) 4979 1116

St Joseph's Pastoral Team: Contact the Parish Office

Parish Bulletin: Prayer requests and items for the Bulletin should be received at the Parish Office by 5pm on Wednesdays.



The readings for the feast of Pentecost hold some interesting connections between fire and water. In the gospel for the Vigil the Spirit is described as 'rivers of living water' flowing out of the hearts of believers. In the Acts of the Apostles the experience of the Spirit was likened to 'tongues of fire'. In liminal moments like this, when natural logic is confounded, the boundaries between seeming opposites are blurred and new meanings emerge. Reflection by Jenny Close

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)

Tenth Week of Easter, Year C

Monday—6th June

Memorial of Mary, Mother of the Church

8:15am Mass @ The Cathedral

Tuesday—7th June

8:15am Mass @ The Cathedral

8:30am Mass @ Stockton

Wednesday—8th June

8:15am Mass @ The Cathedral

9:00am Mass @ Mayfield West

Thursday—9th June

8:15am Mass @ The Cathedral

8:30am Mass @ Stockton

10:00am Funeral Mass for Eileen McCosker @
Tighes Hill

Friday—10th June

9:00 am Mass @ Mayfield West

9:50am Rosary for Ukraine @ The Junction

10:15am Mass @ The Junction

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

12:05pm Mass @ The Cathedral

Saturday—11th June

Memorial of St Barnabas

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—12th June

Pentecost Sunday, Year C

7.30am Mass @ St Mary's

8:00am Mass @ Tighes Hill

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*

**** The 9:00am Mass @ The Junction is cancelled
permanently**

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS:

Prov 8:22-31

Rom 5:1-5

Jn 16:12-15

VIEW, CHEW, AND CHAT

The schedule for June is:

June 8: Bible Study

June 15 & 22: Lectio

June 29: No meeting

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

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

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.

Commenced May 9 at 10am

To Register: [https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/
mystagogy-mondays-tickets-304319105637](https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/mystagogy-mondays-tickets-304319105637)

PRAYER REQUESTS

RECENTLY DECEASED: Giovanni Spada, Patrick
McNamara, Eileen McCosker, Daniel Close,
Sr Florence Tobin rsj, Sr Sarah Carpenter ocd

ANNIVERSARIES: John Cavenagh, James Kennedy, Vera
Karanges, Eva Hills, Cassie Bleakley, Gerardo & Loreta
Rufo, Sheila Lennan, Mary Sinclair, John Geatches,
Elizabeth McHugh, John Hilton, Brendan Smith

SICK: Christopher Woodland, Diane Cazubon; Ann
Matthews, Colin Bryant; Maureen Sunman, 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, Alma Royan (Germany), Bill Higgins,
John Rumball, Aaron Parkes

*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.*



ST VINCENT DE PAUL WINTER APPEAL

Envelopes will be available in all the Churches for the month of June. Tax receipts for donations over \$2 will be available.



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



FOOD BASKET FOR THE NEEDY

We have delayed the start until the first weekend of July (3rd July). Items of dry goods or tin food e.g. (Vegemite, cornflakes or breakfast foods, sugar, packet or tin soup, sardines, tea, coffee, tin fruit etc but NOT PEANUT BUTTER), can be placed in the basket at the back of St Joseph's Church. St Vincent de Paul members will pick up for distribution to the needy who are very grateful to receive the items. When donating please check expiry dates. Thank you Questions to Sr Carol Woodland rsj (mob) 0423 700 523/4967 2998

NOTICE TO PLANNED GIVERS

THE END OF FINANCIAL YEAR IS COMING!

Planned Giving Tax Receipts: Parishioners who require a tax receipt for planned giving for the 2021/22 financial year must notify the Parish Office before 30th June 2022. Please notify by one of the following methods: **Email to newcparish@mn.catholic.org.au:** Use the wording, *"Please provide me with a Planned Giving tax receipt"* and include your name and envelope number. **Planned Giving Envelope:** Write on your weekly envelope, *"Tax receipt required"*.

Tax receipt data will be processed on 30 June 2022. No subsequent amendments are possible. Any requests received after 30 June 2022 will result in parishioners not receiving the requested tax deduction. If you do not require a tax receipt for tax purposes, it is preferable to refrain from requesting one as this will enhance the tax deductibility for those who do use the tax receipt. I am happy to provide people who do not submit a tax return with your contribution total.

ROSARY FOR UKRAINE

Pray the Rosary in the month of June, from 9.50am on Fridays (before Friday Mass) at St Joseph's Church, The Junction. It is so wonderful that parishioners have supported this call to pray for world peace and all people are most welcome to attend!

ACCOMMODATION WANTED

A female moving to Newcastle at the end of July to commence Paediatric training at John Hunter hospital is looking for self-contained accommodation. Please contact the office for more information.

ECUMENICAL PRAYER SERVICE IN THE SPIRIT OF TAIZÉ

Venue: Immaculate Heart of Mary Church, Tighes Hill

Date: First Sunday each month starting June 5th, 2022

Time: 5.00pm – 6pm followed by a shared supper.



CALL FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST FOR A REGIONAL BEREAVEMENT TEAM

With the Regional Pastoral Council we have discerned the need for a Bereavement Team to serve the Catholic communities of our City Pastoral Region. A number of other regions in our diocese have Bereavement teams and they work very well. The main role of a Bereavement Team is to reach out to and accompany the loved ones of a recently deceased person to provide them with some pastoral support and assist them in the planning and preparation of a Catholic funeral liturgy (be it a Mass or a Liturgy of the Word), together with some follow-up as appropriate. Such a team will be an expression of our shared responsibility for mission and will be an opportunity to enrich this important ministry with the diversity of gifts that so many of you have.

We plan to conduct some information sessions so those interested can learn more about what could be involved and so help them discern if this is for them. Formation will be essential and will assist those who express interest to discern their call to this ministry. So, if you would like to learn more about this with a view to discerning a call to this ministry, please provided your contact details (see link below) and we will be contact with you.

<https://tinyurl.com/cityregion>

REFLECTION

by Richard Leonard SJ

Recently I was accosted by a fundamentalist Christian in the street. He asked me whether I had given my life to Jesus Christ. I have. He asked me if I spoke in tongues. I can, but don't. He asked me if I had made the necessary sacrifices for the Holy Spirit to come into my life. At this point I said that as a Jesuit I was poor, chaste and obedient for Christ, which I think is a decent effort in that direction.

Mind you, in saying I take the vow of poverty I always think of my mother, who, on seeing Jesuit real estate for the first time said, 'If this is poverty, I'd like to see how you guys live chastity – it all seems pretty loose and fast to me.'

The problem with our evangelical brothers and sisters is that they often think the Holy Spirit can be reduced to external signs.

We know, however, from the first Pentecost and from our own experience that the Spirit works in unpredictable AND ordinary ways. From the Acts of the Apostles we learn that where the Spirit of God is active all sorts of gifts are present:

- boldness to stand up for what we believe;
- the ability to hear and listen;
- an end to fear that locks us in on ourselves;
- confidence in the salvation won for us in Christ;
- fidelity to Jesus' commandment to love;
- clarity about what's true; and
- an 'at homeness' with God.

The problem for many of us is working out where the Holy Spirit is leading us. This requires the gift of the discernment of spirits.

St Ignatius Loyola, the founder of the Jesuits, left the church a guide for working out how we can tell if and where the Holy Spirit is leading us. One summary of them goes like this:

1. Don't make a decision when you're down. Let the crisis pass and take time to weigh all the options.
2. The Holy Spirit enables us to let go of our unhealed past and not live in the unknown future. The Holy Spirit draws us to deal with the here and now, as it is, not as we may like it to be.
3. The Holy Spirit frees us up to bring out into the open anything we keep buried in the dark. There is nothing that has ever happened to us that is beyond the Spirit's healing.
4. The Holy Spirit breaks down isolation and draws us into community with other people.
5. Be careful of things that appear too perfect, they sometimes have a sting in the tail and can be destructive.

6. Be guarded about all things that are urgent. The Holy Spirit brings a sense of perspective to problems.

7. The Holy Spirit is always present where compassion and forgiveness are demonstrated.

Not bad for a guy who died in 1556.

So Pentecost is not the charismatic movement's birthday. It is God's promise to abide with us come what may. And living in the power and love of the Spirit and claiming her direction is an intensely practical affair.

It is with this type of confidence that can sing the ancient chant, 'Come O Holy Spirit fill the hearts of your faithful and enkindle in us the fire of your love. Send forth your spirit and we will be recreated and you will renew the face of the earth.'

© 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.

THE CHUCKLE

The ability to speak several languages is an asset, but the ability to keep your mouth shut in any language is priceless.



When Sita's husband passed away, she struggled to provide for her four children and was shunned by her community.

Sita lives in the Bagmati province in Nepal with her four children. Her wage as a labourer barely covered the cost of day-to-day expenses, and she feared she would be unable to further her children's education, leaving them vulnerable to the same poverty and discrimination she was experiencing.

Thanks to the generosity of people like you, Sita was able to join the Nepal Livelihoods and Resilience Program, run in partnership with Caritas Nepal. Over time, she began to develop the life-changing skills she needed to diversify her income, through the sale of milk and other goods, and gain financial independence.

Sita can now produce enough food to feed her family, send all of her children to school, and has become a respected member of her community.

This tax time, you can support more people like Sita to gain the skills they need to triumph over discrimination and escape the cycle of poverty.

Donate now by visiting
<https://www.caritas.org.au/make-an-impact-this-tax-time/> or scanning the QR code.



JUNIOR WORDSEARCH

The disciples received the Holy Spirit

Jn 20:19-23

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

Try to find these words:

afraid
appeared
evening
forgive
hand
happy
Holy Spirit
leader
middle
receive
sins
Sunday

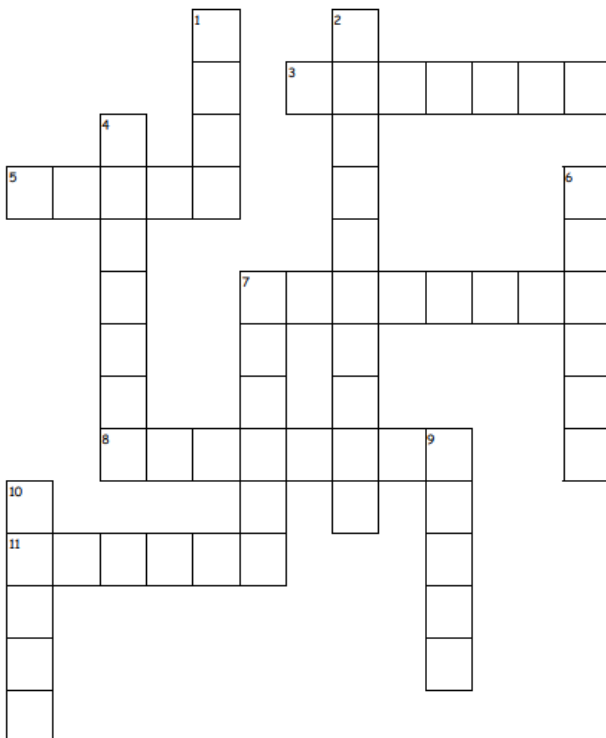
Pentecost Sunday, Year C [NEPC1SUC_2004_WSG.rtf]

© 2004 Creative Ministry Resources Pty Ltd

CROSSWORD

The Holy Spirit came upon them

Acts 2:1-11
Ps 104:1abc & 24, 30-31 R. see v.30
1 Cor 12:4-7, 12-13
Jn 20:19-23



Across

- 3: Jesus said to the disciples, 'If you _____ anyone's sins, they will be forgiven'
5: a large group of people
7: to have come into sight
8: talking
11: very surprised

Down

- 1: it has fingers and a thumb
2: the _____ came down and took control of everyone
4: Jesus' followers saw what looked like fiery _____ moving in all directions
6: another word for centre
7: frightened or scared
9: presents
10: glad

Pentecost Sunday, Year C [NEPC1SUC_2004_CW3.rtf]

© 2004 Creative Ministry Resources Pty Ltd

DISCOVER THE DIOCESE'S NEW 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

2022 TWEC DINNER

This year's dinner will be held Friday 24 June from 6.30pm at The Therry Centre, East Maitland. We invite you to enjoy a meal, share stories of the Josephite spirit within the diocesan community and imagine the next chapter of the Tenison Woods Education Community story together. Seats at the dinner are \$60 per person which includes drinks, canapés, main course and dessert. Tables of 10, small group and individual bookings are welcome. For details and bookings go to <https://2022twec.eventbrite.com.au>. Attendee names and dietary needs can be entered at checkout. For queries please contact Sharon Murphy on 4979 1134 or sharon.murphy@mn.catholic.org.au

THE GLOBAL TABLE DINNER- NEWCASTLE.

Come and join a great group of people for dinner on Saturday 28th May 2022 at Adamstown Uniting Church, 6.00pm- 10pm.

The Global Table Collective brings people together around the table to share food, stories and recipes from diverse cultures. In purchasing this ticket, you are helping to support women from refugee backgrounds who are wanting to start their own business in hospitality.

There are still tickets left if you want to come and join the event. Click on the link below.

www.trybooking.com/events/landing/889465

WORLD MEETING OF FAMILIES FORMATION EVENTS OVER JUNE ONLINE 7.00PM-8.00PM

1 June- Belonging, Being and Becoming at St Nicholas - Presented by Caroline McGuinness (Trainer and Assessor, St Nicholas Pathways)

Participants will be introduced to the philosophy and framework that guide practice in St Nicholas education

and care settings. We will explore how educators work with young children in their journey to belong, be and become.

8 June- Educating the whole child to support learning and wellbeing- Presented by Renee Tyczynski (Professional Officer [psychologist], Catholic Schools Office)

Learn about how Catholic schools support student wellbeing by ensuring a safe, supported, inclusive environment, where students are engaged in their learning, form positive relationships and develop skills for their future within a faith-based community.

15 June- Social connections and improving senior's wellbeing- Presented by Nicola Rosenthal (Regional Manager, Catholic Healthcare)

Join with us as we explore the importance of social connections, and five keyways seniors can improve their wellbeing. The presentation will also discuss mental illness, grief and loss in later life and which support services are best suited for older Australians.

20 June- Relationships Matter- Presented by Robyn Donnelly Marriage and Relationship Educator- Pastoral Ministries)

The session provides participants with an understanding of patterns of behaviours that drain our emotional bank accounts and can cause the relationship to go into meltdown or disconnection of the parties. Participants can reflect on 7 areas that create strong sound relationships starting at the foundations this includes research around rituals and shared meaning, so your relationship stays connected to get through areas of disagreements or conflict.

To register go to www.mn.catholic.org.au/church-mission/catholic-life/faith-formation/upcoming-events

CATHOLIC THEOLOGICAL COLLEGE PRESENTS:

'HOW DO WE KNOW CHRIST NOW?'

A free online conference (via zoom) will be held on Friday June 17 2022, 9.30am - 12.30pm with a variety of workshops. This conference will focus on the critical question: 'How do we know Christ now?' and explores how we know the same Christ more authentically and powerfully today.

Workshops (11.30am - 12.30pm)

1. 'Deep Incarnation' and Hope for the Transformation of the World led by Very Rev. Dr Kevin Lenehan
2. Profound Experiences as Encounter: Christian Spirituality for Today led by Dr Rina Madden
3. Exploring Mindfulness and Christian Contemplative Practices led by Dr Cullan Joyce

4. God the Artist Communicates to Us First, Before God the Lecturer: A Workshop Uncovering the Presence of God in Art led by Rev. Dr Elio Capra SDB

Register www.mn.catholic.org.au/church-mission/catholic-life/faith-formation/upcoming-events

Catholic Theological College

Free online conference via Zoom

"How do we know Christ now?" Celebrating 50 years of CTC

Friday 17 June 9.30am – 12.30pm

For further information visit our website: ctc.edu.au

Contact Dr Christopher Morris: christopher.morris@ctc.edu.au

"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: www.laityfamilylife.va/content/laityfamilylife/en/amoris-laetitia/iniziativa-e-risorse/10-video-amoris-laetitia.html

LIVING GOSPEL

Come, Holy Spirit

'Come, Holy Spirit', or its Latin, Vene Sancte Spiritus, has become the basis of countless prayers and hymns over many hundreds of years. To this day, it remains a powerful invocation that can be used in prayer or meditation. Three simple words convey a wealth of meaning. The invitation for the Spirit to 'Come' indicates recognition of the need for the Spirit's intervention and openness to accept the guidance that the Spirit brings. It is a powerful, simple prayer that can be used at the outset of any significant undertaking or whenever you find yourself in need of inspiration.

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.

NEW TESTAMENT COMMENTARY

by Mary Coloe PBVM

We shall come and make our home with them.

In these days of credit cards, we may have forgotten the time when we purchased goods on 'lay-by'. The whole point of this process was to give a guarantee that we would return to lay full claim to those goods. It was a promise sealed by the first transaction of money. The promise is not just verbal, for the retailer is actually given something; the retailer has an initial experience of some money *now* that guarantees more in the future. The living experience of the Spirit is this guarantee for Paul.

In John's gospel, the Spirit is called 'The Advocate' or 'The Paraclete,' and the role of the Spirit is to teach and remind the disciples of Jesus' words. These are functions that happen within a community where people gather to share stories, to ask questions, to try to find meaning in the events of their lives. Jesus promises that when Christians gather for this purpose they will not be alone. Jesus promises that he, and the God he calls 'Father', will make their home with us, and the Spirit will be there to guide and enlighten us.

We sometimes say to visitors, 'Make yourself at home'; today's Gospel invites us to speak these words to God, 'Make yourself at home in my life'. One difference is that visitors come and go whereas Jesus promises a presence to be with us forever. God may even be more 'at home' within our lives than we are.

© Mary Coloe

TODAY'S LITURGY

Entrance Antiphon: Wis 1:7

The Spirit of the Lord has filled the whole world
and that which contains all things
understands what is said, alleluia.

First Reading: Acts 2:1-11

*They were all filled with the Holy Spirit, and
began to speak different languages.*

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 103:1. 24. 29-31. 34. R. v.30

(R.) Lord, send out your Spirit

and renew the face of the earth.

1. Bless the Lord, my soul!
Lord God, how great you are,
How many are your works, O Lord!
The earth is full of your riches. (R.)
2. You take back your spirit, they die,
returning to the dust from which they came.
You send forth your spirit, they are created;
and you renew the face of the earth. (R.)
3. May the glory of the Lord last for ever!
May the Lord rejoice in his works!
May my thoughts be pleasing to him.
I find my joy in the Lord. (R.)

Second Reading: 1 Cor 12:3-7, 12-13

*In the one Spirit we were all baptised, making
one body.*

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, alleluia!

Come, Holy Spirit; fill the hearts of your faithful
and kindle in them the fire of your love. Alleluia!

Gospel: Jn 20:19-23

*As the Father sent me, so I send you: Receive
the Holy Spirit.*

Communion Antiphon: Acts 2:4,11

They were all filled with the Holy Spirit
and spoke of the marvels of God, alleluia.

CANCER COUNCIL BIGGEST MORNING TEA



Friday June 10 after
10:15am Mass in the
Parish Centre at The
Junction. All are
welcome to enjoy
delicious homemade
cakes and slices! All
donations go to the
Cancer Council.

HISTORICAL CONTEXT

Pentecost

The word Pentecost comes from the Greek for fiftieth day. Pentecost Sunday ends the season of Easter and comes as a Sabbath day after seven weeks of seven days. In Jewish tradition the 50th day after the Passover was celebrated as a blessing of the harvest and rather than the unleavened bread of Passover it was celebrated by leavening the bread. It was for this reason that the disciples were gathered together when they experienced the Holy Spirit empowering them. In Christian tradition, Pentecost is celebrated as the arrival of the Spirit, promised by Jesus, that animated the disciples to spread the gospel of Jesus and gather believers to form what would eventually become the Church.

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