

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 31 JULY 2022 18th Sunday in Ordinary Time, 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) Dr Anne Millard (Music, Liturgy, Sacraments, Bulletin)

Other Contacts

Contact the Parish Office Lingard Hospital Team: Sr Patricia Whitten rsm **Mercy Pastoral Team:**

St Joseph's Pastoral Team: Contact the Parish Office

(02) 4979 1116

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



Jesus warns against greed for wealth. If we spend our time hoarding material treasures and neglect the spiritual aspects of life then we are only half persons – two dimensional at best.

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)

Eighteenth Week in Ordinary Time, Year C

Monday—1st August

Memorial of St Alphonsus Liguori

8:15am Mass @ The Cathedral

Tuesday—2nd August

8:15am Mass @ The Cathedral

8.30am Mass @ Stockton

11.00am Funeral Mass for (Terence) Paul Evans @

The Junction

Wednesday—3rd August

Memorial of St Dominic

8:15am Mass @ The Cathedral 9:00am Mass @ Mayfield West

2.00pm Funeral Mass for John Belcher

Mayfield West

Thursday—4th August

Memorial of St John Vianney

8:15am Mass @ The Cathedral

8:30am Mass @ Stockton

Friday—5th August

9.00am Mass @ Mayfield West—CANCELLED

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—6th August

Feast of the Transfiguration of the Lord

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—7th August

19th Sunday in Ordinary Time, 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) **

Cancelled until 11th September

3:00pm Divine Mercy Devotion @ Mayfield West.

5:00pm Taize Service @ Tighes Hill

5:00pm Mass @ The Cathedral

5.30pm Mass @ Mayfield West (Vietnamese)

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

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

The Parish Office hours are 9.30am to 4pm; we are closed between 1 and 2pm for lunch.

Those who may visit the office outside the new opening hours can leave written messages, forms, and paperwork in a secure wall-mounted box (at the front door), or communicate via email or a phone message.

BANNS OF MARRIAGE



Congratulations to Bernard & Christine who will celebrate their marriage at a Nuptial Mass on Saturday 21st August in Sacred Heart Cathedral.

ROSARY FOR UKRAINE

Pray the Rosary 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!



PRAYER REQUESTS

RECENTLY DECEASED: Terence Paul Evans, John Belcher, Alma Nowakewitz (Royan) (Germany)

ANNIVERSARIES: Louise Little, Lyal Russell, Raymond Russell, Lloyd & Margaret Bailey, Leonard & Nell O'Malley, Carol Whipper, Dallas Humphries, Bernard Curran

SICK: Eva Grant, Eileen Howard, 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

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.

FOOD BASKET FOR THE NEEDY

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

BOOK CLUB

Sunday, 7th August @ 6:15pm to discuss

The Russian Wife by Barry Maitland. If

You would like to participate in book club
meetings, please email

newcparish@mn.catholic.org.au

NOTICE TO PLANNED GIVERS

New Planned Giving envelope sets (2022/2023) for existing planned givers are available for collection from your church. If you cannot find your envelopes, please contact the Regional Office Ph: 4979 1101.

DIRECT GIVING

If you would like to set up planned giving by direct deposit, the form is available at: https://www.mn.catholic.org.au/about/planned-giving

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

CAN YOU UNDERTAKE AN OVERSEAS MISSION?

Our sister churches in Africa, Asia and the Pacific are requesting Australian Catholics to join them to build the skills of those in their community who have had less opportunity than ourselves. Please consider these Mission opportunities abroad: https://palms.org.au/current-opportunities/

The Australian Catholic Bishops Conference provide support. Palms Australia, who have prepared Australian Catholics for global mission since 1961, will ensure accommodation and a living allowance is provided to you during your time away. Enquire online https://palms.org.au/current-opportunities/assignments-abroad/ or Ph: 0422 742 567 to find out about a placement to engage your skills.

You can also register for a Webinar on **Monday August 1**st **at 7:00 pm** to talk directly with a Palms' partner community in Timor Leste and two Australians recently posted to work with them. Invite your friends. **The stories will inspire.** Register at: https://palms.org.au/event/celebrate-palms-return-to-global-mission/

VIEW, CHEW, AND CHAT

The schedule for August is:

August 3: No meeting

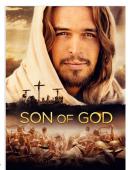
August 10: Bible Study, where we start a new series, entitled Son of God (read more below)

August 17 and 24: Lectio

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

SON OF GOD

View, Chew, and Chat begins a new series for Bible study on August 10. If you have not attended View, Chew, and Chat before, now might be the time to join! The new series, called **Son of God** (also known as *Jesus: The Complete*



Story and Jesus: The Real Story), is

a British documentary series that chronicles the life of Jesus using scientific and contemporary historical evidence. Son of God featured interviews with 21 historians and other Biblical experts, live action reenactments of the life of Jesus with Leron Livo in the lead role, and computer-generated images of what locations from Jesus's time might have looked like.

Son of God is a series of three episodes that focus on a different stage of Jesus's life.

Episode 1, "The Real Man" (August 10), concerns the historical evidence for the existence of Jesus, and documents his life from his birth to his temptation.

Episode 2, "The Mission" (September 7) discusses how Jesus became popular among Jews and Greeks, and why the Pharisees of the area might have seen him as a threat.

Episode 3 "The Final Hours", (October 5) looks at Jesus's crucifixion, and presents some ideas as to how the traditional views of the crucifixion may conflict with how it really occurred. The episode concludes with the construction of a computer-generated animation of how Jesus may have appeared.

Email the office to sign up and you will receive the link to the episode, which you view prior to the discussion date. Then attend via Zoom. All are welcome!

HOUSIE IS BACK!

Thursday and Saturday nights from 7:30 until 10 in the Southern Cross Hall.

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS:

Wis 18:6-9 Heb 11:1-2, 8-19 Lk 12:32-48

Set your heart on what is in heaven

Col 3:1-4
Ps 147:1, 3-4, 5 and 7 R. Is 30:18
Lk 12:16-21

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Try to find these words:

Christ appear beside bigger earth enjoy farm grain hidden poor raised rich

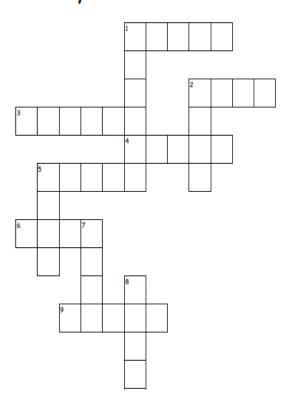
18th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year C [N18ORSUC_2004_CW3.rtf]

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Lk 12:16-21

CROSSWORD

Earthly wealth does not last



Across

- 1: the ability to see
- 2: a place where food is grown and animals are raised
- 3: larger
- 4: have fun or appreciate
- 5: construct
- 6: that which is harvested on a farm
- 9: a substance that comes from wheat

Down

- 1: collected and put away
- 2: someone who is foolish
- 5: a farm building used for storage
- 7: lacking things you need
- 8: wealthy

GOSPEL REFLECTION

In his Spiritual Exercises, St Ignatius Loyola says that pride, riches and power are the three most seductive and destructive temptations in the world. So many conflicts, and their continuance, can be traced to the interplay of this unholy trinity. The so-called reality TV show, Big Brother and its many imitators demonstrate just how far some of our compatriots will go to be famous, to be wealthy or to have a certain clout in the popular imagination.

We should never be surprised when our media culture reflects this back to us, because by watching the programmes, reading the papers and the magazines, listening to the shock-jocks and buying the merchandise, we are part of the problem, not the solution.

In today's Gospel Jesus tells us just how deadly riches and greed can be. Our own experience tells how right He is: think of how many children fight in the playground because everything they see is 'mine'; the families who have fought over an estate; the number of friends who have fallen out over even small amounts of money; colleagues who no longer speak to each other because of a failed investment; and nations who have gone to war to get what their neighbours have.

The issue with money is not having it, because money, and the health, education and welfare that flow from it are good things, whereas poverty is an evil that God wants wiped off the face of the earth. The problem is what we do with money and what it does to us. Some Christians think that just because they are financially comfortable from legitimate earnings, they do not have to take any responsibility for the world's poor who are often stereotyped as being lazy, warmongering and irreligious. These images may justify not sharing more of the excess we have, but it does not remove the moral obligation Jesus demands of us today. Of the world's 6 billion people, 1.2 billion of them live on US\$1, or less, a day. On average 26,000 children will die today of starvation. We should try telling them they're lazy, war-mongering and irreligious! In an attempt to get rich quickly or to stay rich, most western countries gamble away 10 to 15 times more money than they give to third world development - money that might see markets and wages that are just, and so provide an incentive for work, curtail or prevent some wars and help develop democracy.

When faced with the enormity of the world's poverty, the bad spirit can convince us that it is so large there is nothing that we can do about it. Not true. Every moment of consciousness and each act of goodness toward anyone anywhere is a victory for God's kingdom and will to be done 'here on earth as it is in heaven'.

No one can pretend, however, that sharing is always easy or that throwing money around will solve the world's problems. Everyone who works in the front-line says that the biggest obstacle in the war on poverty is dignity. And dignity, as Jesus reminds us today, has very little to do with money or possessions. Each time we make a claim for our own dignity and we give dignity to people who do not even claim it for themselves, we contribute to the generous and just world Jesus wants. And sometimes that can be as easy as turning the channel on the radio or the TV.

Fr Pedro Arrupe inherited the office of leading the Jesuits four centuries after its founder St Ignatius Loyola died. He once said that, 'the celebration of the Eucharist is always incomplete while there is hunger in the world.' Let's pray at this Eucharist that we do not blunt the hard edge of the Gospel. Rather let us accept its power to convert our hearts and minds that we might meet its challenges in regard to bestowing dignity and sharing our possessions with those who have a just claim on them.

© 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.

A THOUGHT

In the 1987 movie, *Wall Street*, the corporate raider, Gordon Gekko, famously declares: 'Greed is good! Greed is right! Greed works! ... Greed – for life, for money, for love, knowledge – has marked the upward surge of mankind!' Whilst the depiction was intended to parody and critique corporate behaviour of the 1980s, in many ways it came to define it instead. In the intervening decades, little has changed. The pursuit of more and more wealth and the ludicrous sums paid to corporate CEOs are exactly the imagery Jesus would use today for his parable.

JULY/AUGUST RETREATS AT ST MARY'S TOWERS, DOUGLAS PARK

There are a number of retreats being hosted at St Mary's Towers in Douglas Park during July and August. They are as follows:

- 3-11 Aug \$1240 or Weekend 5-7 Aug \$310: In the Heart of Creation with Jesus: Retreat Team
- 13-22 Aug \$1395 Life's Healing Journey or Private Weekend 19-21 Aug \$310: Retreat Team
- 24 Aug 1 Sep \$1240 or Private Weekend 26-28 Aug \$310: Retreat Team

For more information or a flyer contact contact@towersretreat.org.au or 02 4630 0233. An application form can be found here: www.towersretreat.org.au/1-retreat-application-form/file

CELEBRATING THE SACRAMENTS

Reconciliation is available at **Sacred Heart Cathedral**: **Usually Fridays** from **11am** until **11.55am** and on Saturdays from **about 10.30am** until **11am**. Other times available by appointment.

Baptisms are celebrated on Sundays, either during or after any of our Sunday Masses. A fortnightly Baptism Preparation meeting takes place on Saturday afternoon before Mass. Please contact the Regional Office for more details, or visit the website.

A **Sacramental Preparation** program runs each year in the parishes for children wishing to complete the celebration of the Sacraments of Initiation as part of the community of the parishes of the Region. The program begins each February. Please contact the Regional Office for more details, or visit the website.

For adults who wish to become part of the Church, the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults for those who have not been baptised, and the process of Reception into Full Communion for those who have been baptised in other churches. Please contact the Regional Office for more details, or visit the website.

Weddings are celebrated by arrangement with at least three (and preferably more) months notice. Please contact the Regional Office for more details, or visit the website.

THE CHUCKLE

Spotted on a church marquee: "Love your enemies; After all, You made them."



GOSPEL REFLECTION

One of the themes running through the gospel is that wealth can be an obstacle to entering fully into relationship with God. It is not wealth in itself that is problematic but rather valuing material riches above everything else. We have the story of the rich young man who asks Jesus what he must do to inherit the kingdom and Jesus tells him to sell everything he has and give away the proceeds. The young man goes away sad because he thought that with his great accumulation of wealth he'd be able to buy anything he needed to gain the kingdom. We also have the saying of Jesus that it is easier for a camel to pass through the eye of a needle than a rich man to enter the kingdom of God.

The parable in today's gospel depicts a man who has so much grain that he decides to build bigger barns to store it all. The parable follows Jesus' teaching that 'a man's life is not made secure by what he owns, even when he has more than he needs.' The point is about having more than we need. What good is served by one person having more than they need while others do not have enough to meet their needs? The rich man who had the abundant harvest could have stored up all that he needed and still been able to share the abundance with others. modern society is particularly dominated by a mindset of accumulating more than we might ever need. Our consumerist lifestyle nurtures the desire to accumulate more and more 'stuff'. How would we answer God's question, 'so this hoard of yours, whose will it be then?'

© Greg Sunter

CLAIMING HOPE:

CREATIVE HEALING RETREAT

Join the MGL Sisters at Carmel House from 12 to 14 August for a healing retreat experience. Come to God in your woundedness, journey with Him through creativity, and allow Him to transform you into a living sign of hope.

Enquiries: mglsisters.sydney@gmail.com

Bookings: www.trybooking.com/BWMJN

ANNUAL HIROSHIMA DAY COMMEMORATION

Join Christians for Peace and the Hunter Peace Group on Saturday 6 August for their annual Hiroshima Day Commemoration. From 11am at Peace Park (Maitland Road, Tighes Hill) there will be a service and BBQ picnic. Former Greens Senator Lee Rhiannon and Father Rod Bower from the Anglican Diocese of Newcastle will be the guest speakers. For more information contact the Hunter Peace Group at hunterpeacegroup.2016@gmail.com or phone 0476 884 200 or reach out to Christians for Peace at doug.isabel35@gmail.com or phone 0431 935 097.

APPLICATIONS ARE NOW OPEN FOR THE 2023 PASTORAL PLACEMENT PROGRAM

The Pastoral Placement Program offers participants an experience of ministry in the Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle. The purpose of this program is to give participants the opportunity to experience different workplaces and ministries across the diocese. These 'on the ground' ministry work placements help people explore the opportunities that are available to them to serve God and the local community of the Catholic Church in the Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle. The Pastoral Placement Program provides participants a year-long discernment journey, involving the see, judge, act philosophy, to make an informed choice about the possibility of their future ministry or career choices.

For more information and to learn to how to apply go to:

https://www.mn.catholic.org.au/church-mission/catholic-life/pastoral-placement-program/

REDISCOVERING JOY- FINDING WONDER AND JOY IN THE WORD OF GOD.

Join us for a Day with Sr Mary Coloe, current Associate Professor of New Testament studies within the University of Divinity Melbourne.

In a retreat style and setting, Sr Mary will help us examine how rich and life-giving Scripture can be, revealing a God whose story intends to renew our lives and calls us to actively engage with the world.

Date: 15 August 2022

Time: 9.00am - 3.00pm (arrive from 8.30am)

Venue: Crowne Plaza Hunter Valley

Cost: \$30

To register go to: www.eventbrite.com.au/e/

rediscovering-joy-tickets-339651395467

OUR BELOVED DEAD

We remember those in our Sacred Heart Cathedral Columbarium whose anniversaries occur in July:

Reginald Bennett Coral Dawn (Diri) Cooke **Gerard Daly Patrick Docherty** John Doran Maree Margaret Drennan Mary Everleigh Sergio Franceschi Fay Franks Joan Marjorie Harris **Kevin Thomas Kelly** Teresa Gabriela Lewandowska Reg Jim McLean Ken Moulston Frank Narvo Jerzy Nowakowski Mildred Roser **Christine Smith Eric Smith** Josef Stefanson Clarence Joseph Withers

Eternal rest grant unto them and may perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace, Amen.

SCriptural Context

Do not worry

This parable and teaching about the love of wealth is followed up by Jesus telling his disciples not to worry about what they will eat and what they will wear. He invites them to look to the birds of the air and flowers of the fields. God provides them with all that they need. Jesus tells his disciples to seek the kingdom and all the other necessities of life will be given to them as well. Rather than focusing on accumulating wealth as the rich man in today's parable, Jesus reassures his disciples that if they focus their lives on the kingdom they will have all that they need.

TODAY'S LITURGY

Entrance Antiphon: Ps 69:2,6

O God, come to my assistance; O Lord, make haste to help me! You are my rescuer, my help; O Lord, do not delay.

First Reading: Eccl 1:2; 2:21-23

What do people gain by all their work? Responsorial Psalm: Ps 89:3-6. 12-14. 17. R. v.1

(R.) In every age, O Lord, you have been our refuge.

- You turn men back into dust and say: 'Go back, sons of men.' To your eyes a thousand years are like yesterday, come and gone, no more than a watch in the night. (R.)
- You sweep men away like a dream, like grass which springs up in the morning. In the morning it springs up and flowers: by evening it withers and fades. (R.)
- 3. Make us know the shortness of our life that we may gain wisdom of heart. Lord, relent! Is your anger for ever? Show pity to your servants. (R.)
- In the morning, fill us with your love; we shall exult and rejoice all our days. Let the favour of the Lord be upon us: give success to the work of our hands. (R.)

Second Reading: Col 3:1-5, 9-11

Seek the things that are above where Christ is.

Gospel Acclamation: Mt 5:3

Alleluia, alleluia! Happy the poor in spirit; the kingdom of heaven is theirs! Alleluia!

Gospel: Lk 12:13-21

To whom will all this wealth of yours go?

Communion Antiphon: Wis 16:20

You have given us, O Lord, bread from heaven, endowed with all delights and sweetness in every taste.

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REFLECTION FROM POPE FRANCIS

"You can have flaws, be anxious and even be angry, but do not forget that your life is the greatest enterprise in the world. Only you can stop it from failing. You are appreciated, admired and loved by so many. Remember that being happy is not having a sky without storm, a road without accidents, a job without effort, a relationship without disappointments.

"To be happy means to find strength in forgiveness, hope in battles, security in fear, love in discord. It's not only to enjoy the smile, but also to reflect on the sadness. It's not just about celebrating success, it's about learning from failures. It's not just about feeling happy with applause, it's about being happy in anonymous. Being happy is not a fatality of fate, but an achievement for those who can travel within themselves.

"To be happy is to stop feeling like a victim and become the author of your own fate." It's walking through deserts, but being able to find an oasis deep in the soul. Is thanking God every morning for the miracle of life. Being happy is not being afraid of your feelings and being able to talk about yourself. Have the courage to hear a "no" and find confidence in criticism, even when it's unwarranted. It's kissing your children, cuddling your parents, having poetic moments with your friends, even when they hurt us.

"Being happy is letting the creature that lives in each of us live, free, joyful and simple. You have the maturity to be able to say: "I've made mistakes". It's having the courage to say I'm sorry. It's having the sense to say "I need you". Is having the ability to say "I love you". May your life become a garden of opportunities for happiness... that in spring he may be a lover of joy and in winter a lover of wisdom.

"And when you make a mistake, start over. Because only then will you be in love with life. You'll discover that being happy isn't having a perfect life. But use tears to irrigate tolerance. Use your defeats to train your patience.

"Use your mistakes with the serenity of the sculptor. Use pain to tune into pleasure. Use obstacles to open the windows of intelligence. Never give up ... Above all never give up on the people that love you. Never give up on being happy, because life is an incredible spectacle." (POPE FRANCIS).

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.