

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 July 2022 17th 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

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Margaret Cox (Reception & Administration)
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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.



World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly 2022

Pope Francis last year established the World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly, which is being celebrated on today. The day is marked near the feast of Sts Joachim and Anne, the grandparents of Jesus. The theme for this year's celebration is "In old age they will still bear fruit", taken from Psalm 92. Find prayer and liturgical resources and Pope Francis' message at www.catholic.org.au/grandparents

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)

Seventeenth Week in Ordinary Time, Year C

Monday—25th July

Memorial of St James

8:15am Mass @ The Cathedral

Tuesday—26th July

Memorial of Sts Joachim and Anne

8:15am Mass @ The Cathedral

8.30am Mass @ Stockton

Wednesday—27th July

8:15am Mass @ The Cathedral

9:00am Mass @ Mayfield West

Thursday—28th July

8:15am Mass @ The Cathedral

8:30am Mass @ Stockton

Friday—29th July

Memorial of St Martha

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—30th July

Memorial of St Peter Chrysologus

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—31st July

18th 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

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:

Eccl 1:2, 2:21-23 Col 3:1-5, 9-11 Lk 12:13-21

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.

HOUSIE IS BACK!

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

CLERGY HOLIDAYS

No Polish Mass in Sacred Heart Cathedral from SUNDAY 10 July, resuming 11 September. Fr Zaremba is taking annual leave and visiting Poland. We wish Fr Zaremba a wonderful trip and a safe return.

Fr Peter Thoai is on holidays from 12 July until 18 August. His Sunday Masses will be covered by retired clergy.

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!

VIEW, CHEW, AND CHAT

The schedule for July is:

July 20 and 27: Lectio

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

PRAYER REQUESTS

RECENTLY DECEASED: Danison Natividad, Ian Barry King, Peter Thompson, Ian McKinnon, Alma Nowakewitz (Royan) (Germany)

ANNIVERSARIES: Kenneth James Austin, Michael Pascal Dunne, Ted McDonald, Constance Olds, Julie Raftery, Donato & Carmela Rufo, Basilio Rufo, Margaret & Lloyd Bailey, Mary Florence Tobin, Marie O'Callaghan, **Gus Unger**

SICK: 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, John Belcher

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.

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 Palms Australia, who have prepared support. Australian Catholics for global mission since 1961, will ensure accommodation and a living allowance is provided to you during your time away. Enquire https://palms.org.au/current-opportunities/ online 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 1st 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-returnto-global-mission/

GOSPEL REFLECTION

In today's gospel, Jesus provides his disciples, and all Christians, with a model for prayer. In keeping with this modelling by Jesus, it is significant that the Lord's Prayer, or Our Father, is the common prayer of all Christians, regardless of denomination.

The parable and teaching that follow the Lord's Prayer make clear the particular purpose of prayer that Jesus was highlighting – prayer as petition. In this instance, Jesus assures us that if we pray for what we need with conviction and confidence, then God cannot fail to respond to our prayer. Jesus in fact encourages us to be demanding and persistent in our prayer.

However, the parable used to demonstrate the persistent nature of prayer is not focused on demands for selfish purposes, but rather the neighbour needs assistance in fulfilling his obligations of hospitality to a traveller. He is not waking his neighbour in the middle of the night to ask for bread for himself; he asks for bread to give to his guest. He asks for help to fulfil his duty and responsibility. This gives us something of an idea about how we might focus our prayer.

The final element of the gospel passage provides us with a description of God's love and care by something of a negative comparison: if human parents would not do harm instead of good to their children, God is even less likely to act like this towards us. It's a bit of an odd way around of saying that God's love is greater than anything within our experience or imagination.

A crucial aspect of prayer is the attitude with which we view God. We trust in God's character that it is not a pointless exercise to ask for something. We trust that God is even more loving than a parent who tries to give their child what they need.

If we did not make these basic assumptions about God, there would be little point in prayer. When our prayer lives falter at times, perhaps we need to first check out our relationship with God and our attitude towards God before trying to 'fix' the ways we pray.

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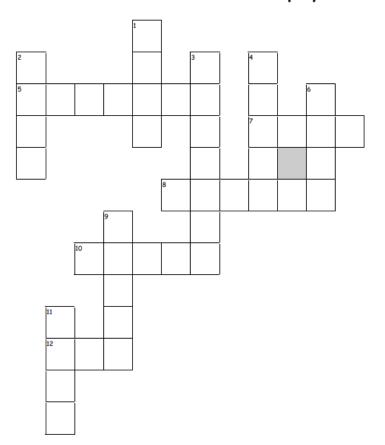
MATILDA ALICE CAMPBELL

Jade delivered Matilda Alice on Wednesday at 4:38. She weighed 7.15 pounds and is 54 cms long. Jade is on leave until December.

CROSSWORD

Lord, when I called for help, you answered me

Gen 18:20-32 Ps 138:1-2a, 2bcdef-3, 7abde-8abc R.v.3a Lk 11:1-10



Across

- 5: to take something into your possession
- 7: you enter a house through this
- 8: someone who we really like
- 10: mad and upset
- 12: "___ and you will receive"

Down

- 1: wicked, extremely bad
- 2: speak to God
- 3: to wreck something completely
- 4: assess someone's actions
- 6: the opposite of bad
- 9: to wrap your knuckles on a door
- 11: rescue

17th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year C [N17ORSUC_2004_CW3.rtf]

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JUNIOR WORDSEARCH Ask and you shall receive

Lk 11:1-10

R	I	Q	G	D	W	L	Н	В	٧	Н	L	Ε	X	0
Q	K	X	5	0	Z	F	W	R	0	Ν	G	Z	٧	Р
Α	L	Χ	0	0	Q	F	F	Ν	F	В	P	Н	В	Ε
Ε	M	W	Р	R	K	0	R	W	Т	Н	Ι	U	D	Ν
Е	Н	Т	٧	В	Z	0	A	5	Н	A	M	Е	D	Е
F	A	Р	G	F	D	D	G	5	Е	Α	R	C	Н	D
J	U	У	Р	Ι	Κ	Н	I	W	Р	0	Ε	A	L	0
A	M	K	D	Ν	Ι	Ι	F	٧	L	Q	Е	5	F	В
Т	G	0	M	D	Z	Q	L	L	0	Α	Ν	K	A	Q
Т	A	C	Р	Ν	R	C	Ε	F	R	Ι	Е	Ν	D	Е
Е	U	L	D	Е	Q	Р	G	M	Ν	F	٧	Е	G	٧
U	Р	F	Z	Ν	F	Р	R	Ε	C	Ε	Ι	٧	Е	A
R	Р	L	Q	У	У	R	K	Ν	0	C	K	A	Ι	W
У	Ρ	R	Α	У	G	0	Q	Α	S	Ζ	Ν	Р	Κ	Н

Try to find these words:

ashamed

ask

door

find

food

friend

knock

opened

pray

receive

search

wrong

REFLECTION

Heaven and Earth Can Coincide

Some time ago, I conducted a funeral for a seven day old baby. The wrenching pain for the mother and father was so real that words of consolation seemed empty. And yet, I stuttered this thought: What is Heaven? Heaven is the situation where the soul is immersed in unconditional love.

That beautiful little girl experienced Heaven for those seven days of her earthly existence. There was no distance between Heaven and Earth because she was held in the unwavering gaze of her parents, loving her without limits. The transition of her soul through death would have been seamless. Heaven and Earth were clearly united in those seven days.

And yet, we human beings too easily forget those precious revelations, revelations which do not always depend on tragedy. We too easily end up putting huge distance between Heaven and Earth, imaginatively in spatial terms. 'Heaven is way beyond the horizon of the universe.'

It was not so for Our Lord Jesus Christ. Look at the prayer he taught his disciples – you and me – to pray.

'Thy will be done on Earth as it is in Heaven.'

How can this come about? It happens when human being share God's way of seeing and doing things. There need be no gulf between Heaven and Earth. But, the fact is we are usually unable to see or do things that way. Most often this failure springs from ignorance or distraction and sometimes from deliberate malice.

Jesus Christ identifies two areas which we followers need to focus on to help make Heaven and Earth coterminous – sharing the same space, as it were.

1. 'Give us this day our daily bread.'

This petition is very real for most inhabitants of the world – a plea for the necessities of life to stave off real hunger.

When Jesus was moved with compassion at the sight of a hungry crowd of five thousand he could have done nothing without the generosity of a little boy who handed over his few loaves and fishes.

The petition can only be answered if you and I respond with practical compassion to the plight of those in need. If we do so, we can change a Hellish situation to a place where Heaven and Earth coincide.

2. 'Forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us.' (Matthew's version)

But, first to Shakespeare: I think it was Portia in the Merchant of Venice who says 'The quality of Mercy is not strained. It falleth as the gentle rain of Heaven on to the place beneath.'

We know that if the surface of the earth is concreted over it cannot absorb ordinary rain and it runs off to water elsewhere. If we develop a harshness of heart which refuses to show mercy and forgiveness ourselves, then we are like earth concreted over and unable to absorb God's mercy and forgiveness into our own lives.

When we forgive someone, we become more able to absorb the gentle rain of divine mercy and forgiveness.

So, Heaven and Earth need not be as distant as supposed. Our Lord has shown us how we can help make these dimensions of existence coincide.

Pray the 'Our Father' often. It was the prayer embodied in the lives of a loving mother and father over those seven days. It is the prayer to be embodied in our lives. When we do so we can sing:

'Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of Hosts, Heaven and Earth are full of your Glory. Hosanna in the Highest.'

© Fr Michael Tate

LiVing # gospel

Ask, Search, Knock

Jesus says in the gospel, "Ask, and it will be given to you; search, and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened to you." The actions of asking, searching and knocking are means by which we initiate the encounter with God. If we don't ask, search and knock, how is anyone (including God) to know our needs or know what it is that we are searching for. Particularly in our spiritual lives, it is only through the search and the knocking on the doors of different experiences that we ever come closer to finding answers.

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

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

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

THE CHUCKLE



You know you're old enough to retire when, instead of lying about your age, you start bragging about it.

PASTORAL POSITIONS AVAILABLE IN THE DIOCESE

Pastoral Ministries is seeking to employ people in the following roles to engage with and to serve the wider diocesan community in growing mutually supportive relationships for the sake of community and mission.

Closing date for applications is 28 July 2022.

Officer Identity and Community: https:// cdmn.elmotalent.com.au/careers/dio/job/view/304 Officer Worship Prayer: https:// and cdmn.elmotalent.com.au/careers/dio/job/view/305 Minister: Pastoral Ministries Youth https:// cdmn.elmotalent.com.au/careers/dio/job/view/300 Administration Assistant - Community and Mission: https://cdmn.elmotalent.com.au/careers/dio/job/ <u>view/187</u>

Calvary Retirement Community Cessnock is seeking a suitable person for the following role:

Pastoral Care Worker: https://careers.calvarycare.org.au/jobs/pastoral-care-worker-cessnock-nsw-australia

SAINTS JOACHIM AND ANNE'S STORY

In the Scriptures, Matthew and Luke furnish a legal family history of Jesus, tracing ancestry to show that Jesus is the culmination of great promises. Not only is his mother's family neglected, we also know nothing factual about them except that they existed. Even the names "Joachim" and "Anne" come from a legendary source written more than a century after Jesus died.

The heroism and holiness of these people however, is inferred from the whole family atmosphere around Mary in the Scriptures. Whether we rely on the legends about Mary's childhood or make guesses from the information in the Bible, we see in her a fulfillment of many generations of prayerful persons, herself steeped in the religious traditions of her people.

The strong character of Mary in making decisions, her continuous practice of prayer, her devotion to the laws of her faith, her steadiness at moments of crisis, and her devotion to her relatives—all indicate a close-knit, loving family that looked forward to the next generation even while retaining the best of the past.

Joachim and Anne—whether these are their real names or not—represent that entire quiet series of generations who faithfully perform their duties, practice their faith, and establish an atmosphere for the coming of the Messiah, but remain obscure.

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 <a href="https://doi.org/do

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/

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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.

A BLESSING PRAYER FOR GRANDPARENTS

by Greg Sunter

God of all the generations
Your gift of faith and gift of love have been handed down to us
through parents, grandparents and great-grandparents

for all of time.

Look with favour on all our grandparents and bless them.

Bless their eyes that look on us with love and affection.

Bless their ears that listen to our questions and our stories.

Bless their knees and laps we sit on.

Bless their arms that hold us and their hands that help us.

Bless their legs that walk beside us.

Bless their hearts that swell with pride for us.

And bless their faces that bring us joy.

Bless them and keep them as they bless and keep us. We make this prayer through Saint Joachim and Saint

Anne, the grandparents of Jesus. Amen.

TODAY'S LITURGY

Entrance Antiphon: Cf. Ps 67:6-7,36

God is in his holy place, God who unites those who dwell in his house; he himself gives might and strength to his people.

First Reading: Gen 18:20-32

Lord, do not be angry if I speak.

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 137:1-3. 6-8. R. v.3

Lord, on the day I called for help, you answered me.

- I thank you, Lord, with all my heart, you have heard the words of my mouth. Before the angels I will bless you.
 I will adore before your holy temple. (R.)
- I thank you for your faithfulness and love which excel all we ever knew of you.
 On the day I called, you answered; you increased the strength of my soul. (R.)
- The Lord is high yet he looks on the lowly and the haughty he knows from afar.
 Though I walk in the midst of affliction you give me life and frustrate my foes. (R.)
- You stretch out your hand and save me, your hand will do all things for me.
 Your love, O Lord, is eternal, discard not the work of your hands. (R.)

Second Reading: Col 2:12-14

He has made you alive with Christ for he has forgiven all our sins.

Gospel Acclamation: Rom 8:15

Alleluia, alleluia!

You have received the Spirit which makes us God's children, and in that Spirit we call God our Father. Alleluia!

Gospel: Lk 11:1-13

Ask, and it will be given to you.

Communion Antiphon: Ps 102:2

Bless the Lord, O my soul, and never forget all his benefits.

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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.

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

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.

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.