

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 7 AUGUST 2022 19TH 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)

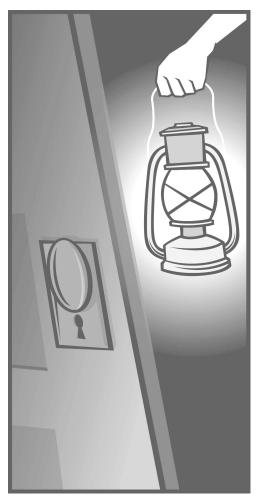
#### **Other Contacts**

**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.



Jesus' message indicates that the disciples should live as if every day was their last: keep the lamps burning and be ready to answer the door when the Son of Man knocks. There was a sense of urgency in the early church regarding the Second Coming.

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)

Nineteenth Week in Ordinary Time, Year C

Monday—8th August

Solemnity of St Mary of the Cross

8:15am Mass @ The Cathedral

Tuesday—9th August

8:15am Mass @ The Cathedral

8.30am Mass @ Stockton

Wednesday—10th August

Feast of St Lawrence

8:15am Mass @ The Cathedral

9:00am Mass @ Mayfield West

Thursday—11th August

Memorial of St Clare

8:15am Mass @ The Cathedral

8:30am Mass @ Stockton

Friday—12th 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—13th August

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—14th August

20th 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:**

Jer 38:4-6, 8-10 Heb 12:1-4 Lk 12:49-53

#### PARISH OFFICE HOURS

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

Those who 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 21<sup>st</sup> 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:** Manuel Pereira, John Belcher, Alma Nowakewitz (Royan)

**ANNIVERSARIES:** Rhonda Sullivan, Kevin Fitzpatrick, Margaret Dobrowolski, Karen Rabbitt, Joan Dawson, Maree Martin, Frederick (Alf) Cazaubon, Moira Thomas, Sheelagh Ruggero, John Riley

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.

Next week we will remove all the names from the sick list to start afresh. Please email or phone in intentions. The person must consent to the publication of his or her name.

#### HOUSIE IS BACK!

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

#### **DIVINE MERCY DEVOTION**

Sunday August 7 @ 3pm, Christ the King Church, Mayfield West. All welcome.

#### **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

#### 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

#### **FEAST OF THE ASSUMPTION**

In Australia, the Catholic faithful should observe as holy days of obligation:

- Christmas Day (December 25 the Feast of the Nativity of Our Lord Jesus Christ)
- The Assumption (August 15 the Feast of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary)
- All Sundays of the year

Mass will be celebrated in Sacred Heart Cathedral at 8:15am and in St Joseph's at 10:15

# 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 CHUCKLE

I envy people who grow old gracefully. They age like a fine wine. I'm ageing like milk: Getting sour and chunky.



#### **MORE BULLETIN**

The full bulletin is available on the Cathedral website (use this QR code) or visit:

https:// sacredhearthamilton.org.au/



#### VIEW, CHEW, AND CHAT

The schedule for August is:

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 computergenerated 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!

#### TAIZE SERVICE

Venue: Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic Church Tighes Hill

followed by a shared supper.

Date: Sunday August 7 Time: 5.00pm – 6pm



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# Try to find these words:

awake
fortunate
home
lamps
master
morning
night
ready
return
servants
thief
wedding

19th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year C [N19ORSUC\_2004\_WSG.rtf]

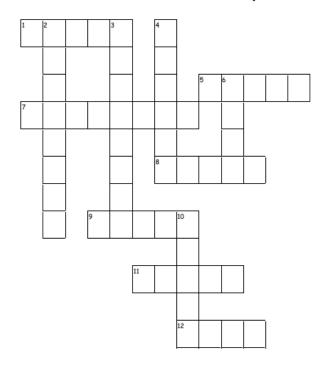
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Heb 11:1-2, 8-12

Ps 143:1, 8, 10 R,v,1a Lk 12:35-40

#### CROSSWORD

# Have faith in what God promises



#### Across

- 1: devices that are used to light up rooms
- 5: one of Abraham's sons
- 7: people who serve
- 8: prepared
- 9: evidence
- 11: someone who steals
- 12: the house that you live in

#### Down

- 2: a member of a family who lived a long time ago
- 3: a person you do not know
- 4: the head of a household
- 6: a beach is largely made of this
- 10: belief

#### **GOSPEL REFLECTION**

As offensive as the Monty Python film, The Life of Brian was to some Christians, the scene in which several competing messiahs try to convince the market-place crowd that they are the real thing, humorously captures brilliantly and expectations in 1st century Palestine. Not unlike the fervour at the end of the last millennium, some religious people believed the end of time was close at hand. Far from selling his messianic wares at the market, however, Jesus crept in beside us and lived, suffered, died and was raised from the tomb in a way no one anticipated. Even after his resurrection the earliest Christians believed Jesus would return very soon, so they could afford to live as if they were, literally, in the last days. When this didn't happen there was crisis in the community. The earliest disciples, to whom much had been entrusted, had to hand on a faith in a more unpredictable God who does not fulfil all our expectations or run to our timetable.

Luke points out that the greatest gift we Christians have received is knowing that Jesus is the Messiah, the Christ. What a relief to know we do not have to shop around any more. From everyone to whom much has been given, however, much will be required and so knowing who Jesus is only goes halfway. Living out the reality of the Christian life is the other half. Today's Gospel teaches us that our Christian life should be marked by five characteristics, that we: willingly share with those in need; are ready to act justly; stay alert to the presence of God in the world; guard against those people or things that can rob us of our faith; not abuse others but live in peace. With or without a sense that Jesus is due back at any minute, the Christian life is meant to focus on the essentials.

Two thousand years later we are still waiting for Jesus' return and many of us live complicated lives that rob us of true happiness. Sadly, it often takes a tragedy for us to reassess what we have been given. A student at the Columbine High School, who was injured in the shooting, wrote this sombre reappraisal of how he sees the world and what he thinks we should be passing on to the next generation:

'The paradox of our time in history is that we have taller buildings, but shorter tempers; wider freeways, but narrower viewpoints; we spend more, but have less; we buy more, but enjoy less.

'We have bigger houses and smaller families; more conveniences, but less time; we have more degrees, but less sense; more knowledge, but less judgment; more experts, but less solutions; more medicine, but less health.

'We have multiplied our possessions, but reduced our value; we talk too much, love too seldom, and hate too often. We've learned how to make a living, but not a life; we've added years to life, not life to years.

'We've been all the way to the moon and back, but have trouble crossing the street to meet our neighbour. We've conquered outer space; not inner space, we've cleaned up the air, but polluted the soul; we've split the atom, but not our prejudice. We have higher incomes, but lower morale; we've become long on quantity, but short on quality.

'These are the times of tall men (sic), and short character; steep profits, and shallow relationships. These are the times of world peace, but domestic violence; more leisure, but less fun; more kinds of food, but less nutrition.

'These are the days of two incomes, but more divorce; of fancier houses, but broken homes. It is a time when there is so much in the showroom window and nothing in the stockroom.'

We all know the world is not quite so neat, not so either/or, but these words focus the question well enough: what are the essentials of our life, or as Jesus puts it, what is our treasure and where is our heart?

#### © 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

Peter asks Jesus very specifically, 'Lord, do you mean this parable for us, or for everyone?' Frustratingly for Peter (and for the audience), Jesus doesn't give the direct question a direct answer, he answers the question with another story. Throughout the gospels, this is a constant tactic used by Jesus. He almost never gives a question a straightforward answer. By doing this, he invites the questioner to reflect on their own question and their purpose in asking it in the first place. He also cleverly avoids being tied down to a yes/no answer when a matter is not that simple.

#### Pope Francis Homily 2019

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

In today's Gospel passage (Lk 12:32-48 above), Jesus calls his disciples to be continually vigilant. Why? In order to understand God's transition in one's life because God continually passes through life. And he indicates the manners in which to live this vigilance properly: "Let your loins be girded and your lamps burning" (v. 35). This is the way. First and foremost, "the loins girded", an image that evokes the attitude of the pilgrim, ready to set out on a journey. It is a case of not putting down roots in comfortable and reassuring dwellings but rather to surrender oneself, to be open with simplicity and trust to God's passage in our lives, to the will of God who guides us towards the next destination. The Lord always walks with us and often he takes us by the hand, to guide us so that we do not err on this journey that is so difficult. Indeed, those who trust in God know well that the life of faith is not something static, but rather dynamic! The life of faith is a continuous journey towards ever new phases that the Lord himself points out to us day by day. Because he is the Lord of surprises, the Lord of novelty, indeed of true newness

And then — the first manner was "the loins girded" next there is the request to keep the "lamps burning" in order to be able to light up the darkness of the night. Thus, we are invited to live an authentic and mature faith capable of illuminating the many "nights" of our lives. We know, we have all had some days which were real spiritual nights. The lamp of faith requires being continuously nourished by the heart-toheart encounter with Jesus in prayer and in listening to his Word. I return to something I have said to you many times: always carry a small Gospel in your pocket, in your bag, to read. It is an encounter with Jesus, with Jesus' Word. This lamp of encounter with Jesus in prayer and in his Word is entrusted to us for the good of all: thus nobody can pull back in an intimist way in the certainty of one's salvation, not interested in others. It is a fantasy to believe that one can illuminate oneself within, on one's own. No, it is a fantasy. Real faith opens the heart to our neighbour and urges us towards concrete communion with our brothers, especially with those in need.

And in order to help us understand this attitude, Jesus recounts the parable of the servants who await the return of their master from the marriage feast (v. 36-40), thus presenting another aspect of vigilance: being ready for the last and definitive encounter with the Lord. Each of us will encounter, will find him/herself in that day Happy those servants whom the master finds awake when he comes; ... It may be in the second watch he comes, or in the third, but happy those

servants if he finds them ready (v. 37-38). With these words the Lord reminds us that life is a journey towards eternity; therefore, we are called to employ all the talents that we have, without ever forgetting that "here we have no lasting city, but we seek the city which is to come" (Heb 13:14). In this perspective, every instant becomes precious, and thus we must live and act on this earth, while longing for Heaven: our feet on the ground, walking on the ground, working on the ground, doing good on the ground and the heart longing for Heaven.

We cannot truly understand in what this supreme joy consists. However, Jesus lets us sense it with the analogy of the master who, finding his servants still awake on his return: "I tell you solemnly, he will put on an apron, sit them down at table and wait on them" (v. 37). The eternal joy in heaven is manifested this way: the situation will be reversed and it will no longer be the servants, that is, we who will serve God, but God himself will place himself at our service. And Jesus does this as of now: Jesus prays for us, Jesus looks at us and prays to the Father for us. Jesus serves us now. He is our servant. And this will be the definitive joy. The thought of the final encounter with the Father, abundant in mercy, fills us with hope and stirs us to constant commitment, for our sanctification and for the building of a more just and fraternal world. May the Virgin Mary support this commitment of ours through her maternal intercession.

# Historical Gontext

# **Parousia**

The Greek parousia word means 'presence' or 'arrival'. In ancient times the word was usually associated with the formal visit of a king or a ruler. The parousia of a king was a significant and sometimes formidable event. In the writings of the New Testament, the word is used for the return of Christ, the drawing to a close of salvation history and the full establishment of the kingdom of God. The earliest Christians expected to see the Parousia in their own lifetimes. The realisation that this was not to be the case led to a rethinking about living a Christian life.

#### THE GOSPEL AND THE COMMONWEALTH

The Jewish Jesus of Nazareth lived in a remote part of the Roman Empire under the rule of a political and religious elite collaborating with the oppressors.

The majority were peasants or fishermen eking out an existence, or day labourers. Their plea was from the stomach: 'Give us this day our daily bread.'

One of the few ways in which redistribution of wealth could occur was by voluntarily giving to the poor. Jesus inherited the Jewish tradition which was especially concerned with the fate of widows and orphans, those without a male breadwinner to protect them.

It is in that sort of society that Jesus instructs his followers: 'Sell your possessions and give generously to those in need.'

We live in a very different society. The full title of this nation is: 'The Commonwealth of Australia'. The Common-wealth, a rather extraordinary and wonderful title. No doubt it has various levels of meaning, but one must surely be that the wealth of this nation, its people and resources, are meant to be directed to the common good. We are a commonwealth.

We are indeed fortunate. We do not live under the boot of an occupying army. We live in a democracy which is itself a shared privilege and common responsibility. I was talking to someone the other night who, as a new citizen, had taken the Pledge of Allegiance. I told her that in a 'previous existence' I had actually written it. It commences:

'From this day forward [under God]
I pledge my loyalty to Australia and its people
Whose democratic values I share'

And so it goes on. For Australians at least, it seems that democracy, sharing and common-wealth are inextricably linked. And so, when working out how we might respond to our Lord's command: 'Sell your possessions and give to the poor', we can do so in ways very different to what was possible in his day.

We have a compulsory taxation system. We are forced to give up some of our possessions, some of our wealth to the common-wealth. To distribute that wealth the political parties put forward various policies in the fields of social security, medical and hospital care, education and so on.

Bringing these two together, taxation and social justice policies, helps fulfil Our Lord's command to give up some of our possessions to create a society more humane, more civilized, more decent than anything remotely possible under the Roman Empire.

And that would please Our Lord. Why?

Of course, in part because those in need are helped. But, perhaps in greater part, because it makes us different people, larger hearted people: If your treasure is self centred, that is how you may end up for eternity: a hellish existence.

Our Lord wants us to be people whose hearts are expanded and have room for others. We have to arrive at the moment of death with a heart so capacious, so spacious that it can include the billions of people we hope inhabit heavenly existence. And Our Lord says that one indication of our being prepared is:

'Where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.'

Where you want your taxes to go can ready you for Heaven!! So, today's Gospel has something to say to us as voters. And also, more threateningly, about politicians.

We may regard the Commonwealth as a household in which politicians are the stewards. The second part of today's Gospel contains a warning for politicians. The stewards of God's household are not there for their own benefit: 'eating and drinking'. They are there to ensure that all in the household get 'their allowance of food at the proper time'.

Let us pray during this Mass for whoever is entrusted with the offices of political leadership, that they will carry out their mandate with the words of Our Lord reverberating:

'Everyone to whom God has given much, God will demand much from them; the one to whom God has entrusted much, God will demand much more from them.'

© Fr Michael Tate; mtate@bigpond.com

Rev Prof Michael Tate graduated in Law from the University of Tasmania in 1968, and in Theology from Oxford University in 1971. He lectured at the University of Tasmania from 1972-78, being Dean of the Faculty of Law in 1977-78. He was a Senator for Tasmania from 1978-93, being Federal Minister for Justice from 1987-93. He served as Ambassador to The Hague and the Holy See from 1993-96. He then returned to Australia and was ordained in May 2000 and has been a parish priest in the Archdiocese of Hobart since then. He is an Honorary Professor of Law at the University of Tasmania where he lectures in International Humanitarian Law.

## 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 CREEDS

#### THE NICENE CREED

I believe in one God,
the Father almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all things visible and invisible.
I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the Only Begotten Son of God,
born of the Father before all ages.
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father;
through him all things were made.
For us men and for our salvation
he came down from heaven,
and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin
Mary, and became man.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate, he suffered death and was buried, and rose again on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead and his kingdom will have no end.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.

I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church. I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

#### THE APOSTLES'S CREED

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

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

#### OUR BELOVED DEAD

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

Betty Caelli Lynda Corrigan Joan Adele Daly William (Jack) Everleigh Aileen Gilbert **Nesta Haggerty** Kathleen Hart Margaret Hogg Harry Kilner Leon Lakomy Thi Kim Loan Le Mary Loscocco Teresa Losurdo Anthony Mangioni Maree Ann Martin Mark Murphy Henry Petherbridge Ashleigh Powter Sheelagh Ruggero Madeleine Savage Veronica (Rhona) Seath Robert (Bob) Smythe Marjorie Wakely

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

## **KNOWING JESUS DAILY DEVOTIONAL VIDEOS**

You cannot become what you do not know. Join us as we seek to dive deep into the life of Jesus to expand our understanding of who He is and help us live and become more like Him.

This FREE Daily Devotional series is presented by Bruce Downes, known as The Catholic Guy, and starts on **Monday 15 August.** 

What people have said about the Daily Devotional Videos:

Love the spiritual knowledge packed messages that you share with all of us. Thank you for spreading this very important message in a way that I understand and look forward to daily!

I can see that God is working miracles in each of these daily devotionals, which is how I start each day. I would feel my day isn't complete without hearing and praying the word of God.

Receive these short, practical, and inspiring Daily Devotional videos into your inbox to help you explore and understand who Jesus really is!

**Sign up today:** BruceDownes.org/knowingJesus/ or go to our website BruceDownes.org