



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 4 DECEMBER 2022

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT, YEAR A

Our Clergy

Fr John Lovell
Fr Paul Chackanikunnel

Regional Office—St Benedict's Centre

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Our Staff

Margaret Cox (*Reception & Administration*)
Monday, Tuesday, Friday
Jade Simonsen (*Business Manager Property*)
Anne Warren (*Business Manager Finance*)
Tuesday and Thursday
Dr Anne Millard (*Music, Liturgy, Sacraments, Bulletin*)

Other Contacts

Lingard Hospital Team: Contact the Parish Office
Mercy Pastoral Team: Sr Patricia Whitten rsm
0429 923254
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.



THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

There are many ways we can prepare during Advent for the coming of the Lord. Taking some extra quiet time to reflect on the daily scriptures is one, going on a guided spiritual retreat is another, visiting the sacrament of Reconciliation (if we haven't done so for some time) or undertaking some special works of charity. Or perhaps we're participating in an Advent program. Like Lent, Advent is a time specially marked out by the Church for us to take stock of our lives, to re-evaluate our priorities and perhaps let go of some unnecessary baggage we've been hanging on to. For some of us, it might just be a case of slowing down & living more simply.

Fr John

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)

Second Week of Advent, Year A

Monday—5th December

8:15am Mass @ The Cathedral

Tuesday—6th December

8:15am Mass @ The Cathedral

8:30am Mass @ Stockton

4:30pm Farewell Mass for Gerard Mowbray @
The Cathedral

Wednesday—7th December

Memorial of St Ambrose

8:15am Mass @ The Cathedral

9:00am Mass @ Mayfield West

Thursday—8th December

*Solemnity of The Immaculate Conception of the
Blessed Virgin Mary*

8:15am Mass @ The Cathedral

8:30am Mass @ Stockton

11:00am Funeral Mass for Fr. Tomacz Zaremba
Marayong Centre, 132 Quakers Rd,
Marayong. (Sydney)

12 noon Rosa Mystica—Hour of Grace @ The

Friday—9th December

9:30am Diocesan Staff End of Year Mass

9:50am Rosary for Ukraine @ The Junction

10:15am Mass @ St Joseph's

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

12:05pm Mass @ The Cathedral

Saturday—10th December

9:15am Mass @ The Cathedral, followed by the
Novena to Our Lady of Perpetual Help
(followed by Reconciliation)

5:30pm Mass @ The Cathedral

5:30pm Mass @ The Junction

6:00pm Mass @ Mayfield West

Sunday—11th December

Third Sunday of Advent, Year A

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

6:00pm Mass @ Mayfield West (*Vietnamese*)

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

CATHEDRAL CLOSED FOR MAINTENANCE

From Monday 12 December to Wednesday 14 December, 2022, the Sacred Heart Cathedral will be closed for lighting repairs. On the Monday and Tuesday of that week, the 8.15 am Mass will be transferred to Immaculate Heart of Mary Church, Tighes Hill.

Those who wish to attend Mass on Wednesday are encouraged to attend the 9 am Mass at Christ the King Church, Mayfield West.

THE BREAKFAST CONVERSATION (BYO BREAKFAST!!)

We are emerging from our Winter Hibernation. All welcome.

What? Share Shop – a Library of Things!

Borrow that TOOL that you don't want to buy, or that BIG saucepan, or a pair of Crutches?

Come along, listen & learn, and inspect the inventory at the cooperatively run SHARE SHOP.

Lanah – a volunteer, will explain how this is part of The Circular Economy.

When? Monday 5th Dec commencing at: 7.15am

Where? The Share Shop, Shed 1, Pachamama House, 21 Gordon Ave, Hamilton

Why? Fellowship and information

Compliance? Please take Covid precautions that are usual now. Consider masks, and do not attend if you are unwell.

Enquiries to Neil Jones: neil.jones@bigpond.com or 0410 572579

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS:

Is 35:1-6, 10

James 5:7-10

Mt 11:2-11



VINNIES CHRISTMAS APPEAL

Vinnies Christmas Appeal envelopes are available this weekend in all churches. Thank you in anticipation of your generosity.

RECYCLING MADE EASIER

Curby is company that can recycle soft plastics (the sort you used to leave at Coles and Woolies), coffee capsules and fabrics. Collections take place with your yellow lid council bin. More information available at:

<https://www.curbyit.com/>

SECOND RITE OF RECONCILIATION:

5:30 PM - 7:00 PM Wed December 21,
in Sacred Heart Cathedral

THE CHUCKLE

Q: What do you call an old snowman?

A: Water



CHRISTMAS CONCERTS IN SACRED HEART

Sunday 4th December @ 7pm: The Newcastle and Hunter's 44th **Multicultural Christmas Concert** compered by Joop de Wit.

Sunday 18th December @ 2pm: **The Newcastle Tudor Singers** present "The Joy of Christmas" a wonderful afternoon of carols old and new, directed by Anne Millard

ROSARY FOR UKRAINE

Pray the Rosary from 9.50am on Fridays at St Joseph's Church, The Junction.



SEEKING NEW VOLUNTEERS FOR MINISTRY ROLES AT THE CATHEDRAL

With the easing of Covid restrictions, it is now timely to invite all Parishioners to consider volunteering to take a more active participation in the weekend Masses.

We are now seeking to refresh all of our rosters and we invite you to be either a new volunteer, or to confirm your current participation.

We are looking for Greeters, Readers, Collectors, Gifts Presenters, Communion Ministers, Choir Members. If you would like to discuss any of the roles, please discuss with Fr John, Fr Paul, Anne Millard or one of the Sacristans.

Forms are available from the table at the Cathedral entrance. For security, please leave completed forms in the Sacristy or with one of the Sacristans. We will certainly be in touch.

GOSPEL FOCUS

Out of the wilderness

The wilderness holds a special place in scripture. Time spent in the wilderness is associated with a time of preparation for undertaking a special purpose. When Moses led the people from Egypt they wandered in the wilderness for 40 years. This was a time of renewing themselves after their time in Egypt and rediscovering their covenant with God. After his baptism, Jesus retreats to the wilderness to prepare for his public ministry. It was also out of the wilderness that a lot of rebellion and unrest emerged. A desire for change and action is what comes out of the wilderness.



Palms Australia

You've got a lot to give beyond Christmas gifts.

In January you can prepare for mission at home or abroad.

Palms Australia has trained Australians to live and work within cultures and communities overseas since 1961. Now four days of that training will be available for parishioners interested to assist harness the diverse gifts of our community and make it stronger.

At Home Palms' Neighbours Without Borders program (January 7 – 11) will "focus on building communities that are welcoming to all, with particular attention to those on the margins of society and the church" as urged by the recent Plenary Council.

Overseas Completing a further four days (January 12 – 15) will prepare you to meet one of the many requests Palms has from communities in Africa, Asia and the Pacific who need educators; health professionals; administrators and others to assist build on the strengths of their people who otherwise have little opportunity for training.

Enquire about Palms Orientation for mission via www.palms.org.au or call 02 9560 533 or 0422 472 567.

WAITING WITH PURPOSE

Reflect mystagogically on the Advent gospels. This is an opportunity to encounter Christ where we are, to pay attention to what Christ reveals in the scripture and the living tradition of our faith, to share this, to connect it to our life now and to be changed by it. Mystagogical Reflection deepens our capacity to live from Christ: www.mn.catholic.org.au/church-mission/catholic-life/liturgy/liturgical-year/

Connect via Zoom during Advent each Monday at 10am: www.eventbrite.com.au/e/waiting-with-purpose-advent-2022-tickets-443044436837

VIEW, CHEW, AND CHAT

Meets via Zoom November 30 for Waiting with Purpose—the Advent Program. All welcome! Email the office for more info.

PREPARING FOR CHRISTMAS

PREPARING FOR CHRISTMAS- The *Parish ADVENT Prayer Group* will be meeting @ 9.30 am next **Thursday, 8 December** in the Parish Centre and continue for the next few weeks of Advent. All welcome. Please see Gwen Haggerty if you would like to be part of it.

REFLECTION

by Richard Leonard

Even in Church circles these days it is quite common to engage a management consultancy company to help find people for a particular diocesan job. This is a good idea and often these companies find excellent people for the task.

I recently saw a consultancy profile, however, for a diocese seeking a lay chancellor. We all know these people must be upright citizens, but I am convinced that Jesus himself may have been challenged to fill this job description! Apart from having degrees in civil and canon law, the desired applicant had to have 'outstanding Catholic faith, an exemplary moral character and have nothing in his or her background that could cause the Church embarrassment or scandal in the future.'

A couple of days later I came across a tongue-in-cheek summary of a management consultant's report on those who had applied to lead the earliest Christian Church:

'John: Says he is a Baptist, but definitely doesn't dress like one. Has slept in the outdoors for months on end, has a weird diet, and picks fights in public with religious leaders.

'Peter: Has a bad temper, even has been known to curse. Had a big run-in with Paul in Antioch. Aggressive. A loose cannon.

'Paul: Powerful, CEO type of leader and fascinating preacher. However, short on tact, unforgiving with young ministers, harsh and has been known to preach all night.

'Jesus: Has been popular at times, but once when his following grew to 5000 he managed to offend them all and it dwindled down to some faithful women and his best friend. Seldom stays in one place very long.

'Judas: His references are solid. Conservative. Good connections. Knows how to handle money. Great possibilities here.'

In today's Gospel we hear what a fierce character John the Baptist was. He lets the Pharisees and Sadducees have it with both barrels. These groups were the publicly devout churchgoers of their day. They were often hypocrites, professing one thing and doing another. We know they regularly demanded observances of ordinary Jews that they did not live out themselves. No wonder John disliked them so much.

Their religious observance was a charade, focused on their needs, their souls, their salvation. They were going to get to heaven, and everyone else be damned!

They even come out to the wilderness to get baptised. This was like going to salvation mega-store. They buy a little of everything, just to be sure. John attacks them violently and in doing so condemns their privatised religion and lack of social responsibility.

In Christianity there is an important distinction between personal and private faith. Personal faith knows that God is close and intimate, which is what we celebrate at Christmas. For Christians, however, there is no such thing as private faith. We should always be careful of hymns that only ever speak about 'me and Jesus against the world'. Inheriting the promises made to Israel and seeing them as intended for all God's children, we believe we are saved AS A PEOPLE. For us, it is 'we and Jesus for the world.'

If we have no interest in justice, development and peace for our world. If we don't care to know our fellow parishioners. If all we want is to be left alone, to come to Mass, say our prayers and save our souls, then we need to hear the story of Christmas all over again.

May this Advent, then, see John the Baptist do what he does best: 'comfort the afflicted and afflict the comfortable.'

© 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.

New Christmas Tradition

Beginning December 1st read one chapter of the book of Luke in the Bible each evening.

There are 24 chapters.

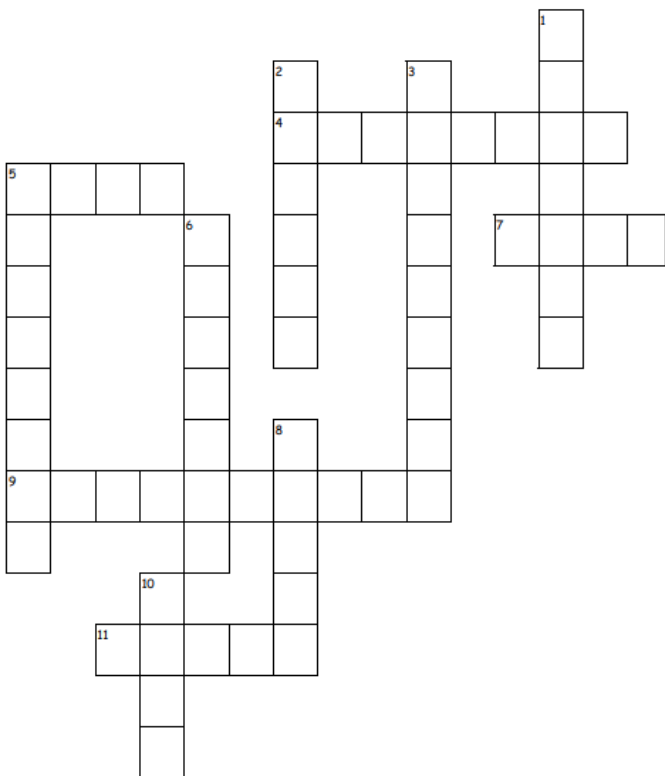
On Christmas Eve you will have read an entire account of Jesus's Life and wake up Christmas morning knowing WHO and WHY we celebrate!!



CROSSWORD

Make a straight path for the Lord

Mt 3:1-9, 11



Across

- 4: yelling, speaking loudly
- 5: bad deeds
- 7: a route for travel
- 9: during baptism God is present in this form (2 words)
- 11: a baptism symbol

Down

- 1: popular footwear in biblical times
- 2: The prophet who spoke of a man who would prepare the way for Christ's coming
- 3: assessment of someone's actions
- 5: not crooked
- 6: John was known as the ...
- 8: where John baptised people
- 10: John wore clothes made of camel's ...

JUNIOR WORDSEARCH

From David's family will come a king

Is 11:1-4a, 5-6, 9b
Ps 72:1 and 8, 17 R.v. 7
Rom 15:4-6
Mt 3:1-9, 11

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

Try to find these words:

Baptist
calves
camels
cheerful
follow
Isaiah
judgement
river
robes
scriptures
water
wolves

FEAST OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION HOUR OF GRACE

12 noon to 1pm, 8th December

Devotions to Our Lady of Grace, Rosa Mystica
@ Sacred Heart Cathedral

During the period 24th November 1946 to 8th December 1947, the Blessed Mother appeared to Sister Pierina in a little church in Montichiari, Italy, eleven times. On the first appearance, the Blessed Mother told Sister Pierina that She wanted to be known as the Mystical Rose



and that an Hour of Grace should be kept at noon, 8th December, in all the Catholic Churches of the world.

It was November 16, 1947 when Sister Pierina was finishing Her Thanksgiving after Holy Communion when she saw a great light. She then saw a vision of the Blessed Mother as the Mystical Rose.

Sister was so deeply moved by the stunning beauty of Our Lady that she began talking to Her. All of a sudden a gentle force made her kneel down in front of Our Lady. The Blessed Mother spoke these words. **“My Son is so greatly offended by the sins of impurity.** He is already planning to send the deluge upon the people, for their destruction, but I have asked Him to show mercy, and not send the destruction. So that is why I have appeared, to ask for penance and atonement for the sins of impurity.”

On the 22nd of November, Sister Pierina felt the overwhelming urge to go to church at 4:00. The Mother Superior, four Sisters, and a group of friends accompanied her. They were all saying the Rosary when the Blessed Mother appeared as before.

Again, Our Lady asked for penance. She said, “Penance is nothing more than accepting all our crosses daily willingly. No matter how small, accept them with love.” At this time She told Sister Pierina to come again on December 8th at noon. **“This will be my Hour of Grace.”** The Sister asked how she was to prepare for this Hour of Grace? To which the Blessed Mother said, “with prayers and penance. **Pray the 51st psalm with outstretched arms** three times. **During the Hour of Grace, many spiritual graces would be granted.** The most hard-hearted sinners will be touched by the grace of God.” The Blessed Mother promised that whatever a person asked her for during this Hour of Grace (even in impossible

cases) would be granted to them, if it was in accordance with the Will of the Eternal Father.

On the morning of December 8th, people began arriving at the little church at 8:00 in the morning from neighbouring towns. By noon, some 10,000 people had gathered to see the Blessed Mother... In the most gentle and loving voice, Our Lady smiled and began to speak [to Sister Pierina]: “I am the Immaculate Conception, the Mother of my Beloved Son, Jesus. I want to be known as the Mystical Rose. My wish is that every year on the 8th of December, at noon, an Hour of Grace will be installed. Many spiritual graces and physical blessings will be received by those who pray, undisturbed, during this hour.”

MARIA ROSA MYSTICA APPARITIONS

Blessed Mother appeared under the title of “Rosa Mystica” (Mystical Rose) at Montichiari in Northern Italy to Pierina Gilli. **The purpose of this devotion was to reform of the religious and religious institutions.** During the sixth apparition, **Our Blessed Mother appeared with the two children of Fatima** (Francisco and Jacinta) which shows Her appearance under the title of “Rosa Mystica” and considered a continuation of Fatima.

Come to the Hour of Grace, open your heart and be guided by the Holy Spirit, place your requests from your heart to the Mother of God, Our Blessed Mother, Immaculate, Rosa Mystica.

Scriptural Context

Brood of Vipers!

The gospel of Matthew in particular casts the Pharisees in a very dim light. John's insult to them, calling them a brood of vipers, is indeed echoed by Jesus later in this gospel. In this gospel, Jesus describes the Pharisees as hypocrites and blind guides. The community for whom this gospel was written were predominantly Jewish Christians. However, at the time of writing serious cracks were appearing in the relationship between the Jewish community and the Christian sect. This gospel aligns closely with the Jewish tradition but is very critical of the inflexibility of the Pharisees.

NEW TESTAMENT COMMENTARY

Romans 15:4-9; Matthew 3:1-12

'If you are repentant, produce the appropriate fruit.'

If John appeared in our Churches today what would we make of him? Smile at his delusion? Be embarrassed by his challenge? Be angered by the upset to our normal religious routines? If these questions cause discomfort, John caused discomfort in his time, so much so that he was thrown into prison and executed. John preaches the coming of God. Nothing about him is attractive – the environment is the harsh Judean wilderness, his clothes and food are bizarre and his message 'Repent' is hardly an advertising slogan. And yet people come to him. Jerusalem, all Judea and the whole Jordan district go to him for baptism. People can recognise truth. It may not be attractive, some may prefer to avoid it, but we cannot fully hide from the truth. John speaks to the truth of God. God is near. God is coming. Is your life open to receive God or not?

When we hear the word 'baptism' we may immediately think of the Christian ritual of baptism. The word in Greek meant to plunge into the water and this was a very common ritual within Judaism. Archaeologists have found many bathing pools in some of the houses in Jerusalem and at the entrance to the Temple – these are called *mikvot* (singular: *mikvah*). Before going to the Temple pilgrims would first totally undress, then submerge themselves under the waters of a *mikvah* – there were some for women, and some for men. Priests who lived in Jerusalem would have their own *mikvot* and would carry out this ritual every day before serving in the Temple. This ritual of outer cleansing symbolised an inner cleansing of one's heart in preparation for encountering God. John used the cleansing waters of a river rather than a constructed *mikvah*, but the meaning was the same – a ritual of inner cleansing in preparation for God. The early followers of Jesus, who were Jews and so familiar with this ritual, used this plunging beneath water as their ritual of commitment to Jesus and initiation into the community.

The word translated as 'repent' means something like 'change your way of being, change your heart' – *metanoia*. John doesn't go into details of how to do this. Exactly what '*metanoia*' means is left to each individual. All John demands is a true change of heart. This is why he is critical of the Jewish leaders who are presented here as just going through the motions. They want the waters of baptism without doing the hard work of seeking the truth in their lives. Rituals are easy. Truth seeking costs. As we prepare yet again

for the celebration of God's coming may we approach it at the level of our hearts, even if that calls for some changes.

Paul describes some of the changes needed if people are to live out their commitment to Jesus – to be tolerant and treat each other as friends would. Paul asks the community in Rome to look back at the scriptures and find in them something that can help their own lives. He singles out those who persisted in their faith. Paul's community needs such examples of fidelity in times of trouble, since they are struggling to live a new faith while surrounded by others who don't understand it or may even regard it with suspicion. Some years later, such suspicion will lead to outright persecution and death. During this time leading up to Christmas, perhaps we could take up Paul's advice and find just five or ten minutes during the day to stop and quietly read the Gospel of the Sunday. Reading it slowly, and prayerfully seeing a word that could help your own life – in what way could you prepare for the Lord in your family; do you feel at the moment as if you are in a wilderness time seeking to find God; can you invite the power of the Holy Spirit into your life this Christmas?

© Mary Coloe

BOOK CLUB

Sunday, 11 December @ 6:15pm: Bookclub meets to discuss *The Secret World of Connie Starr* by Robbi Neal. If you would like to participate in book club meetings, please email the office



CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES 2022

Christmas Eve – 24 December

5.30pm Cathedral
5.30pm The Junction
6.00pm Mayfield West
7.30pm Cathedral
10pm Cathedral Polish Mass

Christmas Day – 25 December

Midnight Cathedral
7.30am St Mary's
8am Tighes Hill
9am Stockton
9.30am Cathedral
11am The Junction Italian Mass
11.30am Cathedral Polish Mass



PRAYER FOR THE APPOINTMENT OF OUR NEW BISHOP

Shepherding God
you reveal your way of unfailing love
in the image of the Good Shepherd
who seeks the lost,
shows compassion
knows and is known by the sheep
and lays down his life for them.
We your people of Maitland-Newcastle
are without a bishop to shepherd us.
We ask that your Holy Spirit
who moves through this great south land,
inspire the choice of our new Bishop,
empower his 'yes'
and open our hearts in hospitality and love.
We make this prayer through Christ our Lord, Amen.
Our Lady of Perpetual Help pray for us
Mary MacKillop of the Cross pray for us

BECOME AN SRE VOLUNTEER

Did you know that some 50% of Catholic children are in state schools? Have you ever thought of spreading the good news of the gospel and the love of Jesus Christ with children? Have you ever thought about becoming a Special Religious Educator?
You can make a difference in the schools within your parish! For people of faith, knowing you are participating in Christ's call to share the Good News to all is a great source of joy and meaning.
If you would like to learn more about how you can help, please contact the Pastoral Ministries team on 4979 1200.

BEQUESTS

To help our Catholic Pastoral Region of Parishes continue its important mission of proclaiming the Good News of Jesus, you might consider including us in your Will. You would just need to specify which parish or parishes you would like to help with your bequest. Thank you!

PINTS WITH A PURPOSE: PILGRIMAGE

On Monday 5 December you're invited to join the Diocesan Council for Ministry with Young People at Pints with a Purpose. Ryan Gato, the coordinator of the Diocesan Pilgrimage to World Youth Day 2023 will explore pilgrimage with us; drawing upon his own inspiring stories to illustrate this life changing, awe inspiring, ever ancient ever new tradition. The event starts at 6pm at the Sydney Junction Hotel. For more information, please contact Mary-Anne de Luca on 0409 077 373.

PRAYER REQUESTS

ANNIVERSARIES: Nicola Rossi, Ron Crittenden, Hilda Crump, Noel Stace, Dawn Stevens, Lance Nichols

SICK: Helen Tumbers, Phil Bawden, Madge Humphries, Ronnie Jennings, Eileen Howard, Eva Grant, Colin Bryant, Maureen Sunman, Maree Halbert, Carlo Rossi, Kath Murray, Veronica McCann, Peter Skinner, Tiani Bishop, Tom Parker, Sam and Margaret Broad, Ronald Watt

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 BASKETS 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 Collection baskets also at Tighes Hill.

CatholicCare Social Services Community Pantry food donation bins have been placed in the Sacred Heart Cathedral and St Mary's Star of the Sea Church. These are blue flip-top bins with our flyer on the lid, suggesting the types of foods that could be donated.
We are appealing to the parish community to support people in need in our wider community by donating non-perishable food items. These donated items are put into our 'Community Pantry', from which we are able to provide emergency food hampers. We are desperately low of all foods in our pantry at the moment as we have seen an unprecedented need lately for this service. Ideal foods to donate are: UHT Milk, Breakfast cereals, Rice, Pasta, Pasta sauce, Sweet and savoury biscuits, Instant coffee, Tea bags, Canned soups. Also appreciated coming into Christmas season: UHT custard, Tinned fruit, Jelly

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