

Inner Newcastle Parish: Sacred Heart Cathedral, Newcastle West; St Joseph's Church, The Junction; St Mary, Star of the Sea Church, Newcastle; Immaculate Heart of Mary Church, Tighes Hill; St Laurence O'Toole Church, Broadmeadow. **Mayfield Parish**: Christ the King, Mayfield West. **Stockton Parish**: St Peter-in-Chains, Stockton.

Sunday 5 February 2023 5th Sunday of the year, Year A

Our Clergy

Fr John Lovell Fr Paul Chackanikunnel

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) Monday, Tuesday, Friday

Anne Warren (Business Manager Finance) Tuesday and Thursday

Jade Simonsen (Business Manager Property) Monday

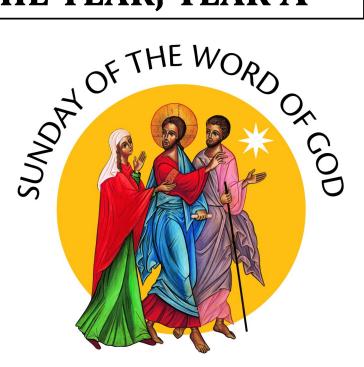
Dr Anne Millard (Music, Liturgy, Sacraments, Bulletin)

Other Contacts

Lingard Hospital Team:Contact the Parish OfficeMercy Pastoral Team:Sr Patricia Whitten rsm0448463679

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.



On 18 November 1965 the Second Vatican Council promulgated its Dogmatic Constitution on Divine Revelation: *Dei Verbum* (Latin for Word of God), and in September 2019, Pope Francis instituted Word of God Sunday to be celebrated annually around the world. Why? Because the Word of God - the sacred scriptures - are fundamental to our whole life of faith. Without it we would have no Gospel, no Church, no sacraments and no sure knowledge of God or His saving love for us as revealed through the person of Jesus: 'The Word that became flesh and dwelt among us' (John 1:14).

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.

	SH DIARY(for the week ahead)	FRO
2	of Ordinary Time, Year A	Dear Friends,
Monday—6	-	Please join me i
	^f St Paul Miki and companions Mass @ The Cathedral	the announcemer
0.13411	Mass @ The Cathedran	Michael Kenned
Tuesday—7	-	appointed the ne
	Mass @ The Cathedral	our Diocese. We g
8.30am	Mass @ Stockton	this wonderful
Wednesday	—8th February	support him with
-	Mass @ The Cathedral	Pending his insta
9:00am	Mass @ Mayfield West	date yet to be ann
Thursday—0	9th February	to act as our Dioc
•	Mass @ The Cathedral	to Fr Greg for his f
	Mass @ Stockton	The season of Le
	-	which is fast appr
Friday—10t	Sunday bulletins	
	St Scholastica	workshop called S
	Rosary for Ukraine@ The Junction	is part of the Seas
	Mass @ St Joseph's	I strongly recomm
11:00am	Exposition, Adoration & Reconciliation @	exercise. It is free
12.0Enm	The Cathedral (until 12pm)	all walks of life
12:05pm	Mass @ The Cathedral	valuable insights a grow from experie
-	1th February	lives. This opportu
	f Prayer for the Sick	have experienced
9:15am	Mass @ The Cathedral, followed by the	past couple of ye
	Novena to Our Lady of Perpetual Help	this as part of ou
	(followed by Reconciliation)	needs of the co
5:30pm	_	parishioners are
	Mass @ The Junction	attend, so if you
6:00pm	Mass @ Mayfield West	who might be int
Sunday—12	th February	have scheduled be
6th Sunday I	in Ordinary Time, Year A	March) and a Satu
7:30am	Mass @ St Mary's	try to accommod
8:00am	Mass @ Tighes Hill	You would only no
9:00am	Mass @ Stockton	Benita Tait, who
9:30am	-	these workshops,
	Mass @ The Junction (Italian)	be attending my
	Mass @ The Cathedral (Polish)	regional Bereaven
5:00pm	Mass @ The Cathedral	our local Catholic
6.00pm	Mass @ Mayfield West (Vietnamese)	staff, parents and
* Livestrean	ned on the Cathedral's YouTube channel—	bulletin. To re
www.youtul	be.com/c/SacredHeartCathedralHamilton	contact our Paris
and on the l	Diacaca wahcita	February on 49792

om the Moderator

in welcoming nt that Bishop dy has been ew Bishop of give thanks for news and h our prayers. allation, at a



nounced, Fr Greg Barker will continue cesan Administrator. We give thanks faithful and generous service.

ent this year begins 22nd February. roaching. You may have seen in our over recent weeks details of a Stepping Stones - WE GRIEVE, which sons of Growth educational program. mend this to you as a special Lenten and will be beneficial to people from e, as it provides participants with and skills to help us learn, heal and iences of change, loss and grief in our unity is very timely given many of us grief in one way or another over the ears due to COVID. We are offering our parish response to the very real ommunity in which we live. Nonalso very welcome to register to have relatives, friends or colleagues terested, please let them know. We both a Wednesday evening session (1 urday afternoon session (4 March) to date people's different availabilities. need to attend one of these sessions. o has extensive experience leading will be the facilitator. I shall certainly yself along with members of our ment Team and I've also encouraged c schools to promote it among their d friends. Please see details in the egister your attendance, please sh Office during office hours by 17 February on 49791101. Love

Fr John

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS: Sirach 15:15-20 1 Cor 2:6-10 Mt 5:17-37

and on the Diocese website

ROSARY FOR UKRAINE

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



WE GRIEVE

Experiences of grief are steppingstones in our human journey 'We Grieve' is an opportunity to explore our understanding of change, loss and grief



We have all experienced change and loss these last three years because of COVID and the normal rhythm of life.

Seasonal changes in nature provide us with rich insight into how life is constantly evolving. This eternal cycle of change and loss offers a message of hope.

Using the Seasons for Growth educational program as the foundation for this 3-hour session we invite you to join the conversation – to share and learn together, to gain some new insights or perspectives, and to move towards healing and growth.

All are welcome: family, friends, neighbours ...

FACILITATOR: Benita Tait

DATE – TIME - VENUE Wednesday 1 March 2023 @ 5.30 -- 8.30 PM OR

Saturday 4 March 2023 @ 2.00 -- 5.00 PM

Both held in the Toohey Room @ Cathedral House, 841 Hunter St Hamilton (beside the Sacred Heart Cathedral)

REGISTER & ENQUIRIES: by 17 February 2023 P: 4979 1101 <u>newcparish@mn.catholic.org.au</u>

TAIZE SERVICE

Sunday February 5: Immaculate Heart of Mary

Catholic Church Tighes Hill 5.00pm – 6pm followed by a shared supper.

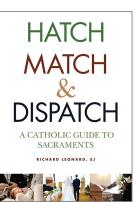


VIEW, CHEW, AND CHAT:

Meets 8th February to discuss chapter 1 of Richard Leonard's book "Hatch, Match, Dispatch: A Guide to the Sacraments."

The book is available from Paulist Press

https://www.paulistpress.com/ Products/0650-9/hatch-matchand-dispatch.aspx



PRAYER REQUESTS

RECENTLY DECEASED: Samantha Miller

ANNIVERSARIES: Gerry Simmons, Michael Tansey, Margaret Dixon, Connie Jennings, Peter Cook, Maureen Kauter, Maurice Tobin, Tomislav Kefecek

SPECIAL INTENTION: Birthday remembrance of Mrs Giulia Valerio (deceased) on Feb 6

SICK: Joseph Howes, Peter Kefecek, Roslyn McGovern, Patricia Quayle, Christine Dowling, 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, Tom Parker, Sam Broad, Ronald Watt

**Please advise the office if names need to be removed from this list! We will remove names that have been here for over six weeks. Call the office if the name needs to be returned to the list.

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**, The Junction. 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.

BISHOP MICHAEL ROBERT KENNEDY

The Holy Father has appointed Bishop Michael Kennedy, currently the Bishop of Armidale, as the ninth Bishop of the Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle. Pope Francis made the official announcement at noon in Rome (10pm local time) on Thursday 2 February 2023.



Noting the appointment follows the untimely death of Bishop Bill Wright in November 2021, Bishop Kennedy said, "I willingly and heartily accept this new appointment, knowing that like all new endeavours, it will hold both joys and challenges. To be the chief pastor leading a Diocese in worship, teaching, evangelisation, and governance is an awesome privilege and responsibility."

We joyfully wait to welcome our new Bishop's arrival!

Personal Details

Bishop Kennedy was born on 13th May 1968 in Wagga Wagga NSW Australia. He is the youngest of nine children born to John and Fidelma Kennedy.

Bishop Kennedy was educated in Wagga Wagga by the Christian Brothers. Following schooling he attended the Sydney Catholic College of Education undertaking a Diploma in Education. He then taught for three years at Xavier Catholic College in Albury, Wagga Wagga Diocese.

In 1992 he entered Vianney College the Wagga Wagga Diocesan Seminary. In 1994 he continued his academic studies in Rome. At the Urban College of Propaganda Fide he obtained a Licentiate in Sacred Theology. At the Marianum Pontifical School he obtained a Diploma in Mariology (the theological study of Mary).

Diocesan Priest

Bishop Kennedy was ordained to the priesthood on 14th August, 1999. Over the next 12 years he held various positions including as Assistant Priest and Parish Priest, Rector of Saint Francis' Residential College at Charles Sturt University, Lecturer in Moral Theology, Mariology and Church History at Vianney College, Diocesan Director of Vocations, Member of Diocesan Council of Priests and College of Consultors, Diocesan Catholic Schools Commission member and Vicar Forane.

Bishop

Bishop Kennedy was appointed as the 10th Bishop of Armidale by Pope Benedict XVI in an announcement

made on 7th December 2011. He was ordained and installed as Bishop of Armidale on 9th February 2012 at Saints Mary & Joseph's Cathedral Armidale.

Previous Appointments since becoming Bishop

- Apostolic Administrator of the Wilcannia Forbes Diocese November 2011 to July 2014.
- Bishop's Commission for Pastoral Life
- Bishop's Commission for Family, Youth and Life
- Bishop's Commission for Justice, Ecology and Development
- Bishop's Commission for the Plenary Council
- Bishop's Commission for Life, Family and Public Engagement
- Bishop's Delegate to the Australian Catholic Marriage and Family Council
- Bishop's delegate and Chair of Catholic Earthcare Australia
- Member of New South Wales Catholic Education
 Commission

Current Appointments as Bishop:

- Member of Bishop's Commission for Social Justice, Mission & Service
- Bishop delegate to the Australian Catholic Council for Employment Relations
- Chair of the Studies in Catholic Thought Reference Group

SACRED @ SEVEN

Sacred @ Seven is held to attract young people for adoration of the Blessed Sacrament with a time for prayer, a reading of the Gospel and a time for reflection both in silence and with music.

It is an opportunity for young people to draw aside in a judgement free space; exploring the hidden treasures of spending time together with each other and with the Lord and allowing the Word of God to speak to hearts.

Join Fr. Peter Street, Parish Priest of Forster-Tuncurry as he presides over the first Sacred @ Seven in 2023.

Date: Wednesday 15 February 2023

Time: 7:00pm

Location: Sacred Heart Cathedral, 841 Hunter Street, Newcastle West

**opportunity for a shared meal following the
event**

Enquiries or RSVP:

Kate <u>kate.crncevic@mn.catholic.org.au</u> P: 4979 1329

PROJECT COMPASSION LAUNCH

Date: Tuesday 21 February 2023 Time: 10:15am for 10:30am – 12:30pm Location: Sacred Heart Cathedral, 841 Hunter Street, Newcastle West Followed by complimentary pancakes in The Southern Cross Hall

The Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle will be launching the Caritas Australia Project Compassion Lenten Appeal at a special Shrove Tuesday Liturgy presided by Diocesan Administrator, Fr. Greg Barker.

In 2023, we are being called to step up and make a difference "For All Future Generations".

Our world is hurting. With escalating conflicts, rising cost of living, poverty, homelessness, climate crisis, loneliness, re-gathering in a post Covid world, we want and need to make a difference. Lent comes as an opportunity to prepare our hearts to be more compassionate, more generous, and more loving of our neighbours.

As a community of communities, we welcome and invite all members of our Clergy, Leaders, Chaplains, School Leaders, Students, Parishioners, Religious Orders, Catholic organisations, staff across our Diocese and wider community to gather "For all Future Generations" this Lent. All in attendance will be called up to receive a project compassion appeal box during the Liturgy.

To commemorate Shrove Tuesday and the launch of Project Compassion, pancakes will then be served in The Southern Cross Hall for all.

Please RSVP your attendance by using the Eventbrite link: <u>https://PC2023.eventbrite.com.au</u> or by email to Kate <u>kate.crncevic@mn.catholic.org.au</u>

We look forward to seeing you there.

BOOK CLUB

Sunday, 5 February @ 6:15pm: Bookclub meets to discuss *Lessons in Chemistry* by Bonnie Garmus. If you would like to participate in book club meetings, please email the office



WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

The World Day of Prayer for the Inner City region will be held on 3rd March, 2023 @10am in St Augustine's, Merewether.

THE CHUCKLE

Police were called to a child care centre this week because a three-year-old was resisting a rest

ENROLMENTS FOR 2023 SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM

A child's catholic faith journey began with the Sacrament of Baptism and continues with the reception of the Sacraments of Initiation: Confirmation and First Eucharist.

The preparations for these sacraments in the Inner Newcastle Parish run between February and June of every year and are designed for children going into Year, 4, 5 or 6 in 2023. Preparations are completed as a family with online activities and volunteer work within the community.

Enrolments are now open for the 2023 program. If you are interested in being a part of the program this year please visit the parish website and complete the online enrolment form.

https://www.newcastlecatholic.org.au/sacramentalenrolment-form/

For more information please contact the office on 49791101 or newcparish@mn.catholic.org.au

If you have already enrolled, expect an email this week with details about the program launch on February 15th!

PREPARING FOR EASTER

The *Parish Lenten Group* will be meeting @ 9.30 am starting <u>Thursday</u>, <u>23 February</u> in the Parish Centre and continue the weeks of Lent. Please see Gwen Haggerty (or (4967 5010) if you are interested in joining the group as booklets need to be ordered.



REFLECTION

Doctors and dietitians would have some difficulty with the first part of today's Gospel. Jesus does not seem to know that salt is bad for hypertension and cholesterol! Just as health professionals are encouraging us to be careful in using salt, Jesus is telling us to keep it up. Salt in Jesus' day, and for centuries before and after, was the primary preserving agent for food. That dayto-day usage gives us a clue as to the challenge being laid before us.

We are told that if salt has lost its taste it's good for nothing. So the challenge is to keep it fresh so it can keep doing its job. Jesus suggests that, in the same way, we have to be on guard to make sure that our faith remains fresh so it's able to do its job as well.

The fifth and sixth chapters of Matthew's Gospel are devoted to describing the elements of Christian faith. At the start of the fifth chapter we have the Beatitudes that tell us that the presence of God can be discovered in all of life's situations. It reminds us that as Christians we can find God wherever we want to. The rest of these two chapters go on to give us specific directions about the dangers and aides to faith.

Jesus tells us that a hollow attachment to the letter of the law, unbridled anger, an inability to forgive, being unfaithful in marriage, seeking revenge on our enemies, not being true to our word and being enslaved by money are all examples of bad faith. Think for a moment of people you know who are trapped by any of these vicious forces. It's sad to see the energy it takes them to remain angry, greedy, legalistic, fraudulent and unforgiving.

More positively Jesus tells us in these chapters that prayer, being generous to the poor, being discerning about whom we spend time with and what we see and hear, and going without things we often consider essential are helpful to living a faith-filled life. Think for a moment of people you know who live lives like this. Their detachment, sense of generosity and ease with others stands out in our stress-ridden world.

My professor of liturgy used to say 'Good liturgy enlivens faith and bad liturgy deadens it.' This is the same message Jesus gives us today about faith in general. It's crazy for us to keep spending time with people and doing things that deaden our faith. We know the impact of these people or activities by the bad taste they leave in our mouths. After an encounter with them or it we usually tell ourselves that we must not go back for more, but the bad spirit seduces us into repeating the entire episode with frightening frequency. St Ignatius Loyola tells us that in these situations we have to deal with the bad spirit quickly and consistently and learn a new pattern of behaviour that will lead us away from darkness into the light.

The job of faith is to enable us to live out and build Christ's reign of justice and love in this world as a foretaste of what awaits us in heaven. May this Eucharist enable us to seek out the people and places that will see the saltiness of our faith remain fresh and interesting so that we will have every chance of preserving our faith in the dryer times, and of our faith in Jesus preserving us in the face of the trials and tests that come our way.

© 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.

2023 LENTEN REFLECTION

FINDING LIGHT WITHIN THE DARKNESS

Pastoral Ministries has prepared a Lenten resource for our diocese, Finding Light within the Darkness. Every Lent there is a fresh invitation to retreat from the noise and busyness of daily life. To listen with our heart, to contemplate our humanness so we can actively focus on humanity. We are invited to turn to God dwelling within us and consider how we can find light in the darkness and how we can be light to others. This resource provides opportunities for prayer, faith-sharing, and outreach in our local community. Download it from the dio website or:

https://tinyurl.com/mnlent23

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. Commencing February 8. Join us each Wednesday 5.00-5.45pm. Zoom link: https://mncatholic.zoom.us/ j/68191395109 Password: 316071 For more information contact: rose.mcallister@mn.catholic.org.au

JUNIOR WORDSEARCH Your light will shine like the dawn

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Try to find these words:

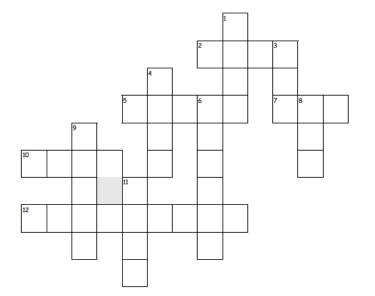
city hidden homeless honest hungry lamp light pot relatives salt shine sun

5th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A [N05ORSUA_2005_WS3.rtf]

© 2005 Creative Ministry Resources Pty Ltd

Mt 5:13-16

crossword You are like light for the whole world



Across

- 2: a light you can carry around
- 5: not dark
- 7: the opposite of bottom
- 10: you eat this when you are hungry
- 12: Jesus' friends

Down

- 1: Jesus told the disciples they were like ____ for everyone on earth
- 3: an indoor plant grows in this
- 4: a very large town
- 6: kept out of sight
- 8: the number before two
- 9: a place where you live
- 11: a small mountain

WORD OF GOD SUNDAY

On September 30, 2019, on the liturgical memorial of St. Jerome, Pope Francis announced that the Third Sunday in Ordinary Time would be celebrated as the Sunday of the Word of God.

Pope Francis instituted the celebration last year when issuing the apostolic letter Aperuit Illis.

The Australian bishops, in light of the regular coincidence of the Australia Day holiday or associated long weekend with the Third Sunday in Ordinary Time, decided to choose another date to mark the occasion. Consequently, the Church in Australia will celebrate the Sunday of the Word of God on the first Sunday in February each year, which is February 6 in 2022 (next Sunday).

Pope Francis launched an appeal to all the faithful to keep the Sacred Scriptures close at all times and to read them frequently.

Let us pray so that more Catholics would get to read, know, listen, and live the Word of God, so indispensable in our relationship with our Lord, through the guidance of the Sacred Tradition and the Church Magisterium.

Get Involved!

Be involved with the Sunday of the Word of God through an octave of readings:

- Is 40:6-8: "The word of our God stands forever."
- Jer 1:4-6: "The word of the Lord came to me."
- Jn 1:6-9, 14: "And the Word became flesh."
- Jn 17:17-19: "Your word is truth."
- Acts 6:6-7: "The word of God continued to spread." 3
- Col 3:12-16: "Let the word of Christ dwell in you."
- Heb 4:12-13: "The word of God is living and effective."
- Jas 1:19-22: "Be doers of the word."

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!

SAVE THE DATE

TORONTO MEN'S WEEKEND

A MenALIVE Men's Weekend will be held at the St Joseph's Toronto Parish on the weekend of 25 and 26 March 2023. The weekend is suitable for all men from 18 years of age and provides an opportunity for attendees to explore what makes them feel fully alive.

More information including how to register will be provided closer to the date. For more information on MenALIVE, visit: www.menalive.org.au

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.

CHRISTIAN MEDITATION AT TIGHES HILL

This is non-denominational and everyone is very welcome. Please come.

WHEN: Monday afternoon 3.30 for 3.45 start WHERE: Mercy Offices

20 Union Street

(Next door to Mercy Services)

Off street parking available

The Meditation session begins with short guided relaxation exercises then we have a reading from Fr. John Main which leads into 20 minutes of silent meditation

Invitation to Join the Cathedral Choir

A beautiful statement attributed to St. Augustine says: "Those who sing pray twice". A song by Celtic Thunder claims: "All God's creatures got a place in the choir, some sing low and some sing higher, some sing out loud on a telephone wire, some just clap their hands!"



We have a place for you in the Cathedral Choir! We sing every Sunday at the 9:30am Mass. Choir practice is Thursday evening at 6pm and again Sunday morning at 8:45am.

Why not join us for Lent and Easter? Ash Wednesday is February 22. Join the choir on February 23 and learn the music for the Easter Triduum on April 6, 7, and 8. It's an amazing experience!