



City Pastoral REGION

CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF MAITLAND-NEWCASTLE

St Benedict's 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 12TH NOVEMBER 2023

32ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Our Clergy

Fr John Lovell
Fr Paul Chackanikunnel
Fr Raphael Madukwe
Deacon Kevin Gadd

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: newcp parish@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
Dr Anne Millard (*Music, Liturgy, Sacraments, Bulletin*)

Promoters of Safeguarding

Fr John Lovell p: (02) 4979 1106
Gail Lovell P: (02) 4979 1101
Anne Millard P: (02) 4979 1252

Other Contacts

Bereavement Team: P: (02) 4979 1256
Mercy Pastoral Team: Sr Patricia Whitten rsm
0448463679
St Joseph's Pastoral Team: Contact the Parish Office



The Allegory of the ten bridesmaids reminds us to be alert to the coming of the Kingdom. We are entreated to keep our eyes open, our hearts aflame with hopeful expectation, and our minds focused on the right priorities in life: 'stay awake, because you do not know either the day or the hour.'

Jenny Close

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

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)

32nd Week of Ordinary Time, Year A

Monday—13th November

8:15am Mass @ The Cathedral

*Anniversary of death of Bishop Bill Wright, 2021

Tuesday—14th November

8:15am Mass @ The Cathedral

9:00am Mass @ Stockton ** Note new time

Wednesday—15th November

8:15am Mass @ The Cathedral

9:00am Mass @ Mayfield West

Thursday—16th November

8:15am Mass @ The Cathedral

9:00am Mass @ Stockton ** Note new time

6pm Choir Practice @ The Cathedral

Friday—17th November

Memorial of St Elizabeth of Hungary

10:15am Mass @ The Junction ** Cancelled until November 24

11am Exposition, Adoration, and Reconciliation @ The Cathedral (until 12pm)

12:05pm Mass @ The Cathedral

Saturday—18th November

9.15am Mass @ The Cathedral followed by Novena to Our Lady of Perpetual Help (followed by Reconciliation)

5:30pm Vigil Mass @ Mayfield West

5:30pm Mass @ The Cathedral

5:30pm Mass @ The Junction

Sunday—19th November

33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

7:30am Mass @ St Mary's

8:00am Mass @ Tighes Hill

9:00am Mass @ Stockton

9:30am Mass @ The Cathedral

Live streamed via the Diocesan website:

www.mn.catholic.org.au/places/livestream/

11:00am Italian Mass @ The Junction

11:30am Polish Mass @ The Cathedral

5:00pm Mass @ The Cathedral

6:00pm Vietnamese Mass @ Mayfield West

PRAYER REQUESTS

RECENTLY DECEASED: Pat Belcher, Dorotea Pierdomenico

ANNIVERSARIES: Bishop Bill Wright, Catherine Martin, Rita Terry, Paul Mather, Norrie Connors, Jean Harman, Ross Maurer, Richard Taper, Darryl Jennings, Ella Stace, Peter Davis, Graham Chegwiddden, George Kitchener Searle, Quintino Murri, Tony O'Beirne, Eric O'Beirne, Delores Hamilton, Marion Scorer, Sandra Berwick, Rose Berwick, Theresa McCormack, Gerald Crockett, Patricia Holz



SICK: Neil McGoldrick, Sr. Margaret Mary, OLN, Sr Rosemary Jackson rsj, Gerard Pearce, Harry Melville, Doreen Mason, Elaine Johnson, Christine Timbrell, Stewart McKinnon, Mark Caesar, Peter Kefecek, Carlo Rossi, Neil Thomas, Kathryn Gray, Emilie Tseronis

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, 3rd December @ 6:15pm: Bookclub meets to discuss *That Bligh Girl* by Sue Williams. If you would like to participate in book club meetings, please email newcparish@mn.catholic.org.au



VIEW, CHEW, CHAT, AND LECTIO

View, Chew, and Chat continues to meet via Zoom. On two Wednesdays each month, we employ the practice of *Lectio Divina* to prayerfully reflect on the Gospel of the coming Sunday. At the end of this month we will begin the Diocesan Advent program.

The program for November is as follows:

15th November: Lectio Divina

22nd November: No meeting

29th November: First Meeting of the Advent Program

To participate, please email the parish office.

SAFEGUARDING

The Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle has an abiding commitment to promote the safety, welfare and well-being of children and vulnerable adults. Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility if you have any concerns for a child or vulnerable adult please contact the Office of Safeguarding: P 4979 1390, Echildprotection@mn.catholic.org.au or www.officeofsafeguarding.org.au

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS:

33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Prov 31:10-13, 19-20, 30-31

1 Thess 5:1-6

Matthew 25:14-30



OUR BELOVED DEAD

We remember those in our Columbaria whose anniversaries occur in November.

At Sacred Heart Cathedral:

David Bound	Desmond (Des) Ledlin
Monica Bound	Elva Letitia Murphy
Anne Veronica (Bonnie)	Helen Murray
Cook Moore	Peter Murray
Mary Ferry	Antonieta Rossetti
Gwen Fuge	Mary Synott
Frank Holmes	Pauline Wenman
Gwydir (Gwen) Holmes	

At St Joseph's

Gloria BROWN	Michael McGLYNN
Frederick BRUYN	Nancy STRUCK
Betty GRANT	Lionel SKINNER
Mary HENDERSON	Byron VIAL
Pat KOCH	Maureen CALLEN
John MAHER	Marie TYNAN
Paul Alexander MATHER	

FEEDBACK SURVEY - NATIONAL CHILD PROTECTION WEEK 2023

3-9 September this year marked the 33rd National Child Protection Week (NCPW), with the theme, 'Where we start matters'.

The Office of Safeguarding would like to thank everyone for their participation and support, and appreciate your feedback to this short survey that will assist with future planning:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/NCPW2023>

If you have any further feedback, stories or video from your activities, we would appreciate these being provided for reference to
childprotection@mn.catholic.org.au

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

ACU PUBLIC LECTURES ON LITURGY

In the lead-up to the 60th anniversary of Sacrosanctum Concilium (the Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy of Vatican II, 4 Dec 1963), the ACU Centre for Liturgy is proud to present an exciting public lecture:

Acclaimed liturgical historian and theologian Rev Professor John F. Baldovin SJ (Boston College) who will deliver a FREE public lecture live in person on ACU's Melbourne Campus on Sunday December 3, 2023, 5pm-6.30pm AEDT on the topic of "A Liturgical Reform in Peril? Sacrosanctum Concilium sixty years on." Fr Baldovin's public lecture will also be livestreamed for those unable to attend in person.

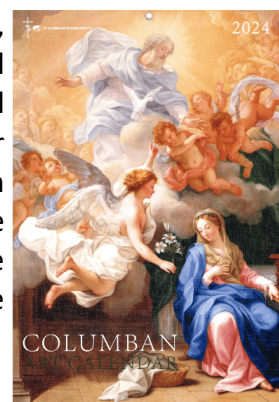
Further information and registration details for this unique and valuable event can be found above and at the following link: <https://www.acu.edu.au/about-acu/institutes-academies-and-centres/acu-centre-for-liturgy/news-events-and-resources>

We look forward to welcoming you to this very special event marking this important milestone anniversary.

For more information please contact:
CentreforLiturgy@acu.edu.au.

COLUMBAN ART CALENDAR

This iconic Catholic Calendar, well-known for its traditional religious paintings and liturgical information is a major fundraiser for Columban Missionaries. The calendars are available through St Vincent de Paul for \$10 each. They can be purchased from the office



RED WEDNESDAY

On 22 November the Pontifical Foundation *Aid to the Church in Need* is asking Catholics around the world to commemorate Red Wednesday and pray in solidarity with those who are persecuted and suffer unjustly for their faith. Find out more: www.redwednesday.org



REFLECTION BY GREG SUNTER

The three gospel accounts from the final three weeks leading up to the season of Advent all come from Chapter 25 of the Gospel of Matthew. They can be seen together as an extended treatise on living life in response to Jesus' message and preparing for the end of time. This week's gospel starts out as a Kingdom parable and becomes a bit more of a metaphor for living a Christian life.

The gospel parable relates to ten bridesmaids – five foolish and five wise – who are participating in a wedding ritual that involves meeting the bridegroom and escorting him the last part of his way to the wedding reception. The foolish bridesmaids have not brought sufficient reserves of oil for their lamps and have to leave at the critical time to try to obtain more. When they eventually arrive at the reception hall they are turned away because they have shamed themselves as well as the bride and groom by not fulfilling their duty.

Some of the original audience of Matthew's gospel, along with many of the early Christian followers, had an expectation that Jesus was going to return and usher in the end of the world in their lifetime. The message of this gospel is captured in Jesus' final words, 'So stay awake, because you do not know either the day or the hour.' The timing of Jesus' coming cannot be predicted and so all Christian believers, like the bridesmaids, need to continue to act with hope and expectation; being prepared for the fact that it may be further off than anticipated. Many early Christians were living their lives as though the world would end at any time. The gospel warns them, and us, to continue to follow the example of Jesus and not to become complacent – expecting that everything is about to come to an end. © Greg Sunter

LIVING gospel

Living in hope

A feature of Christian faith is an approach to life that views the future with hope. In our world today many people look to the future with distrust and even fear. As Christians, we look forward with hope. When change occurs, some allow that change to happen to them whilst others engage in the change process and approach it with hope and expectation. Today's gospel reminds us to be ready for what the future holds; to look with hope towards what lies ahead, but to ensure that we've prepared ourselves properly. The future can only be viewed with expectant hope if we've done the proper preparation!

CatholicCare Christmas Hamper Drive 2023

WE CAN ONLY GIVE WHAT WE RECEIVE



Help us help those in need this Christmas.

CatholicCare is hoping to distribute much needed hampers through our Food Programs across the Hunter-Manning this Christmas, and we need your support!

You can help by donating any of the items listed below:

- Tins of ham
- Fruit mince pies or Christmas puddings
- Fruit juice or tins of stewed fruit
- Jams, cranberry or apple sauce
- Reusable Christmas shopping bags
- Cereal, long life milk or custard
- Sweet or savory biscuits
- Tins of vegetables:
 - baby potatoes, beetroot, corn, peas or tomatoes
- Tea bags, coffee, hot chocolate, sugar
- Chocolates, lollies or pancake mix.



Drop off locations and contact numbers:

Mayfield	58 Church Street	4979 1339
Taree	32-34 Pulteney Street	6539 5900

Financial donations are also welcome!

Each hamper costs \$50, but any amount will make a difference.

Please visit catholiccare.org.au/donate



DIocese of Maitland-Newcastle

HAMPER DRIVE

CatholicCare's annual Christmas Hamper Drive is well under way, and they invite our parish to help support vulnerable families in the Newcastle region.

They hope to distribute Christmas Hampers from the following outreach locations, the week prior to Christmas:

- Hamilton South Community Kitchen
- Civic Park outreach
- Motto Farm outreach
- Toronto Community Kitchen
- Refugee Hub, Mayfield

Donation envelopes are available at Mass this weekend

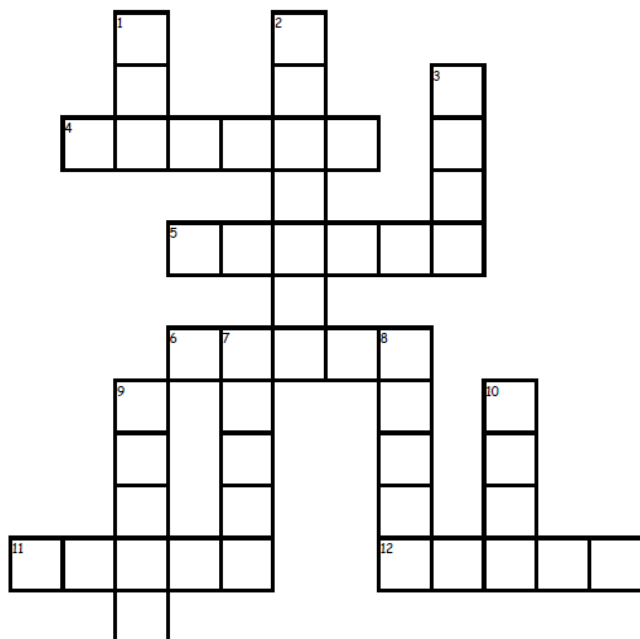
HISTORICAL CONTEXT WHERE WAS THE BRIDE?

It may seem a little odd that the bridegroom was travelling to the wedding hall by himself. What appears to have been the custom is that the bridesmaids escorted the bride to the hall whilst the groom remained behind to settle matters with the bride's family. Whilst the bride price, or dowry, would have been agreed well before the wedding, the family would emphasise and even haggle over the value of gifts to further reinforce the great value of the bride and the wise choice that the groom and his family had made.

CROSSWORD

Wisdom shines brightly for those who seek her

Wis 6:12-16
Ps 63:1, 2-3, 6-7, R. v.2b
1 Thes 4:13-18
Mt 25:1-13



Across

- 4: white and fluffy things that appear in the sky
5: lifted up
6: a heavenly being
11: the opposite of back
12: you do this when you get tired

Down

- 1: the liquid that was needed for the lamps
2: when people get married they have one of these
3: Jesus _ _ _ _ and was raised to life
7: the time when the sky is dark
8: the ten girls used these to see in the dark
9: a bride's husband-to-be
10: to have wisdom

SENIOR WORDSEARCH

Wisdom shines brightly for those who seek her

Wis 6:12-16
Ps 63:1, 2-3, 6-7, R. v.2b
1 Thes 4:13-18
Mt 25:1-13

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

Try to find these words:

angel
clouds
died
front
groom
lamps
night
oil
raised
sleep
wedding
wise

FEAST OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

HOOR OF GRACE

12 noon to 1pm, 8th December

Devotions to Our Lady of Grace, Rosa Mystica

@ St Joseph's, The Junction

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.



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.

AMEN CAMINO 2024

The purpose of pilgrimage is journey. Camino has a long and established Christian history, it means 'road' or 'way'. A famous Camino is St James Way or Camino de Santiago in Spain. The first Christian movement in the 1st Century was known as 'The Way'.

The aMeN CaMiNo is a response to a desire to be in communion with each other and our sacred earth. It is an opportunity to pause from routine, immerse yourself in reflection, contemplation and to provide a moment of space for each person to be conscious of God's gift of Grace.

Amen is the word Christian's use to say 'Yes, we are on our way to God.' By joining us on the "aMeN CaMiNo", you are saying yes to something in your heart which is calling you.

The aMeN caMiNo takes place over five consecutive days. The pilgrimage starts at St John's Chapel, Maitland and concludes at the Sacred Heart Cathedral, Hamilton. Pilgrims will walk an average of 20km per day through the beautiful landscape of bush, beach and beyond which we are blessed to have in our backyard. We will also be holding a weekend experience. If you are interested and would like to know more, join us at this information session.

Date: 13 November Venue: Online Time: 7:00 – 8:00pm

To register go to: www.mn.catholic.org.au/church-mission/catholic-life/faith-formation/amen-camino/

NOVEMBER MEMORIAL MASSES



In the church community, November is a time when we take the opportunity to pray in a special way for those who have died.

The City Pastoral Region invites you and members of your family to attend the Special Masses to be held throughout November

Saturday 18 November @ 5:30pm

Christ the King, Mayfield

Friday 24 November @ 10:15am

St Joseph's, The Junction (for those at rest in the Columbarium)

Saturday 25 November @ 5:30pm

St Joseph's, The Junction (for those whose funeral were celebrated in the past year)

Sunday 26 November @ 8:00am

Mary Immaculate, Tighes Hill

We look forward to sharing this commemoration with you and your family.

Should you wish to have your loved one remembered during this time of commemoration envelopes are available in your church for you to note your request.

VINNIES CHRISTMAS APPEAL

Coming soon to a church near you!



POSITION VACANT – HOSPITAL CHAPLAIN JOHN HUNTER HOSPITAL

The Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle is looking to appoint a Catholic Hospital Chaplain to John Hunter Hospital. The purpose of this position is to provide Chaplaincy and Pastoral Care services to the patients, their families and staff at the John Hunter Hospital and other health facilities that exist on that site. The Catholic Chaplain provides spiritual and pastoral care and emotional support on behalf of the faith community.

For more information about this position please go to the Careers section on the diocesan website: www.mn.catholic.org.au/about/office/pastoral-ministries/ or contact Teresa Brierley on 4979 1157.

THE CHUCKLE

This morning I saw an envelope on my doorstep that said: "Do not Bend". I stood there for ages trying to figure out how to pick it up...



*Our Lady of
Perpetual Succour
75 Years
of the Novena in Newcastle*



All Welcome Saturday 2nd December
Rosary & Procession 8:50am
Holy Mass 9:15am
Novena 9:45am
Benediction 10:15am
Followed by reconciliation

**EXUBERANT CATHOLIC
PRAISE & WORSHIP GROUP**

If you have a passion, talent, or simply a strong desire to be part of something meaningful, we want you to lead or join our teams!

- Music (musicians and singers)
- Research
- Marketing
- Hospitality
- Presenters
- Logistics
- & more...

The time is ripe to make your mark by shaping an exciting new Praise and Worship event for our vibrant faith community. All are welcome to attend our final planning meeting for the year. We are looking to commence this event mid-2024.

Wednesday 22nd November: 5:30 to 7:00pm.
Refreshments are provided from 5:30pm. Meeting commences at 6pm.

Function Room, MacKillop Parish Pastoral Centre
7 Milson Street, Charlestown.
Phone 0466 140 066 for any inquiries.

**MEDITATION GROUPS
AT LIVING WATERS CENTRE**

LIVING WATERS CHRISTIAN MEDIATION CENTRE, 34 Kenrick Street, The Junction, offers meditation sessions on Wednesdays at 7.30am and Fridays at 11.00am – and has done so for the last 25 years, in which time many hundreds of people have taken up this prayer form. After meditation on Fridays Lectio Divina, a personal interaction with Sacred Scripture, is offered. Through both practices we open ourselves to the fullness of life; we come to know ourselves by knowing that we are known and loved by God. For more information: Carmel Moore rsj -0412122297 - or just come.

**ADVENT 2023:
WITH ANTICIPATION AND JOY**

We are called during this holy time to wait with anticipation knowing the joys of what is to come with the arrival of Christ. With Anticipation and Joy is a Diocesan resource that invites all members of the community to gather a circle of people – family, friends, colleagues, ministry teams to reflect mystagogically on the Advent Gospels and associated artworks. 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.

To access the resource, go to:

https://www.mn.catholic.org.au/media/6563/0003487-dio-advent-reflection-book_2023.pdf

**INNER NEWCASTLE REGION
(BROADMEADOW)**

CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON

Monday 27 November 12 pm at
Souths Leagues Club, Llewellyn
St, Merewether.

Please phone Gwen Haggerty 49 675010 so appropriate seating can be arranged. Bookings in by Saturday, 18 November.



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.

TODAY'S LITURGY

Entrance Antiphon: Cf Psalm 87:3

Let my prayer come into your presence.
Incline your ear to my cry for help, O Lord.

First Reading: Wisdom 6:12-16

Wisdom is found by those who look for it.

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 62:2-8. R. v.2

(R.) My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord my God.

1. O God, you are my God, for you I long;
for you my soul is thirsting.
My body pines for you
like a dry, weary land without water. (R.)
2. So I gaze on you in the sanctuary.
to see your strength and your glory.
For your love is better than life,
my lips will speak your praise. (R.)
3. So I will bless you all my life,
in your name I will lift up my hands.
My soul shall be filled as with a banquet,
my mouth shall praise you with joy. (R.)
4. On my bed I remember you.
On you I muse through the night
for you have been my help;
in the shadow of your wings I rejoice. (R.)

Second Reading: 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

Those who died as Christians, God will bring to life with Jesus.

Gospel Acclamation: Matthew 24:42. 44

Alleluia, alleluia!
Be watchful and ready:
you know not when the Son of Man is coming.
Alleluia!

Gospel: Matthew 25:1-13

Look, the bridegroom comes. Go out to meet him.

Communion Antiphon: Cf Psalm 22:1-2

The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.
Fresh and green are the pastures where he gives me
repose, near restful waters he leads me.

OUR CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOLS

St Joseph's Primary School

Karen McGinlay (*Principal*)
Union Street, The Junction NSW 2291
P:(02) 4961 2827
W:www.merewether.catholic.edu.au

Holy Family Primary School

Ann Jackson (*Principal*)
Pell Street, Merewether NSW 2291
P:(02) 4963 3009
W:www.merewetherbeach.catholic.edu.au

St Columban's Primary School

Danielle Reed (*Principal*)
Church Street, Mayfield NSW 2304
P:(02) 4968 3315
W:www.mayfieldsc.catholic.edu.au

St Peter's Primary School

Mark Konik (*Acting Principal*)
Dunbar St, Stockton NSW 2295
P:(02) 4920 1736
W:www.stockton.catholic.edu.au

FOOD BASKETS FOR THE NEEDY

ST JOSEPH'S, THE JUNCTION & IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY, TIGHES HILL:

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), can be placed in the basket at the back of **St Joseph's Church**, The Junction and in the foyer of **Immaculate Heart of Mary Church**, Tighes Hill. 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 or 4967 2998. The St Joseph's community kindly requests that you do not donate peanut butter.

SACRED HEART CATHEDRAL & ST MARY'S, NEWCASTLE:

If you would like to donate, any of the following types of non-perishable items would be most gratefully received: UHT milk, cereal, jam, vegemite, peanut butter, tinned veggies, fruit, soup, fish, meat, dried pasta, rice, pasta sauces, teabags, coffee, biscuits, crackers, custard, jelly, toothpaste, toothbrushes, soap, shampoo, conditioner (even the travel sized ones from hotels), deodorant.