



# 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 17TH MARCH 2024

### 5TH SUNDAY OF LENT, YEAR B

#### Our Clergy

Fr John Lovell  
Fr Paul Chackanikunnel  
Fr Anthony Coloma  
Fr Anil Kumar Kuchipudi  
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: [newcparish@mn.catholic.org.au](mailto:newcparish@mn.catholic.org.au)  
W: [www.newcastlecatholic.org.au](http://www.newcastlecatholic.org.au)  
W: [www.sacredhearthamilton.org.au](http://www.sacredhearthamilton.org.au)

#### Our Staff

Margaret Cox (*Reception & Administration*)  
*Monday, Tuesday, Friday*  
Anne Warren (*Business Manager*)  
*Tuesday and Thursday*  
Daloras Howes (*Administration*)  
Thelma Dickson (*Administration*)  
Elul Tecele (*Administration*)  
Dr Anne Millard (*Music, Liturgy, Sacraments*)

#### Promoters of Safeguarding

Fr John Lovell p: (02) 4979 1106  
Gail Lovell P: (02) 4979 1256  
Anne Millard P: (02) 4979 1252



#### THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

During Lent each year we have prayers called the Scrutinies, which we pray with those being received into the Church at Easter. The purpose of these is to prompt the Elect to examine their lives in preparation for joining themselves to the Lord through the 3 sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist. This should remind the rest of us that we too need to continually examine *our* lives in preparation for celebrating the Paschal mysteries, both at Easter and when we come to meet the Lord face-to-face upon the completion of our journey here on Earth. Fr John

#### Other Contacts

**Bereavement Team:** Margaret Cox, Gail Lovell, Christopher Gregory, Margaret Beard, Margaret Newton, Anne Millard P: (02) 4979 1252  
**Mercy Pastoral Team:** Sr Patricia Whitten rsm 0448463679

**St Joseph's Pastoral Team:** Contact the Parish Office

*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)

*Fifth Week of Lent, Year B*

Monday 18th March

*Solemnity of St Patrick*

8:15am Mass @ The Cathedral

Tuesday 19th March

*Solemnity of St Joseph*

8:15am Mass @ The Cathedral

8:30am Mass @ Stockton \*\*Note change time this week only

Wednesday 20th March

8:15am Mass @ The Cathedral

8:30am Mass @ Christ the King, Mayfield West  
\*\*Note change time this week only

Thursday 21st March

8:15am Mass @ The Cathedral

9:00am Mass @ Stockton (Anointing Mass)

Friday 22nd March

10:15am Mass @ St Joseph's

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

12:05pm Mass @ The Cathedral

6:00pm Stations of the Cross (in Polish)

Saturday 23rd March

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

5:30pm Mass @ Mayfield West

Sunday 24th March

*Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord, Year B*

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](http://www.youtube.com/c/SacredHeartCathedralHamilton)  
and on the Diocesan website*

\*\* The Vietnamese Mass is now celebrated fortnightly

## PRAYER REQUESTS

**RECENTLY DECEASED:** Gloria Daphne Doyle, Patricia Mcleod, Fr Tony Kelly CSsR, Terrence Wynne

**ANNIVERSARIES:** Terry O'Toole, Ruth Galbraith, Keith Martin, Susan O'Brien, Rosemary King, Bill Jennings, Ollie Sutton, John Rumball, Michael Bulley, Marie Sullivan

**SICK:** Maria Therese Perera, Lisa Woodland, Dionisio Di Santo, Tui Innes, Marko Kefecek, Ronoel Diwa, Jolina Joyce Saranillo, Maureen Dwyer, Angela Cottier, Patrick McInerney Cowan, Joshua Zalanardo, Rosa Silivinec, Harry Melville, Doreen Mason, Elaine Johnson, 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](http://www.newcastlecatholic.org.au/downloads).*

## OUR BELOVED DEAD

We remember those in our Columbaria whose anniversaries occur in March:

At Sacred Heart

Louise Anne Balzer

Francesco Bufi

Verona Cable

Edward Caelli

Warren Cunningham

Michael Edward Delaney

Veroncia Ellicott

Betsy Gadd-Ardesch

Frank Gibson

Keith Martin

Terence O'Beirne

Peter Francis O'Sullivan

Wesbrook (Wes) Smythe

Coz Sphiris

Anna Maria Stefanson

Bill Van Schyndel

Thomas (Jack) Wakely

At St Joseph's:

Carmel Blair

Muriel Boekenstein

Della Brain

Ellis Brown

Thelma Doohan

Megan Evans

Margaret Fleming

Barry Lewis John Gordon

Joyce Johns

Jack Muldoon

Yvonne Pryde

John Sowerby

Paul Wallace

Win Young

Kenneth McDonnell

Eleanora C Bertoss

Kathleen Booker

James Struck

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

## NEXT WEEK'S READINGS:

*Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord, Year B*

Is 50: 4-7

Phil 2:6-11

Mk 14:1-15:47



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

## DIOCESAN LIBRARY

Save the Date! Friday 31 May

Join us for the official opening of the Diocesan Library which stands on the site of the original Newcastle Central Christian Library opened in 1957.

This celebration will be followed by a reimagined TWEC dinner which will acknowledge the legacy of Sisters of St Joseph and explore our future journey.

More details will be shared soon.

The Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle Library is open for patrons at 12 Tudor Street, Newcastle West.

Opening hours:

Mondays – 10am to 6pm

Fridays – 10am to 6pm

Saturdays 10am to 2pm

Events:

5 April – Storytime from 10.15am to 11am

5 April – Formation Friday – Easter from 1pm to 2.30pm



## gospel focus

### Love of life

*Jesus says, 'Anyone who loves (their) life loses it; anyone who hates (their) life in this world will keep it for the eternal life.' This can seem pretty tough! It challenges us about how much we cling to the 'things' of this life. Are we concerned about the labels on our clothes; the number of our friends; how much money we have; the sort of house we live in? If this is the 'life' that we place meaning on, then we will surely lose it. However, if we put aside the world's focus on material things and focus our attention on others then we are assured of eternal life.*

## TO WITNESS AND TO ACCOMPANY WITH CHRISTIAN HOPE

The Diocese is holding three workshops with Rev. Fr Kevin McGovern, a Christian ethicist and former director of Melbourne's Caroline Chisholm Centre for Health Ethics. The workshop will focus on accompanying those whom we care for that may be critically ill or at a terminal phase of their life.

SESSIONS AVAILABLE: Wednesday 20 March, 2pm - 4pm and 6:30pm - 8:30pm: Input, discussion and face-to-face workshop

Suitable for staff and volunteers in parishes and staff from Catholic health and aged care providers. Thursday 21 March, 9:30am - 12:30pm: Input, workshop and table-talks. Suitable for Diocesan Leadership, CatholicCare, Principals and staff as well as medical and aged care staff. Register via Eventbrite: <https://CDMN-witness.eventbrite.com.au> or phone (02) 4979-1329.

### CHRISM MASS

Each year during Holy Week all the faithful of the Church of Maitland-Newcastle are invited to gather with Bishop Michael Kennedy for the Chrism Mass. Here we bless and consecrate the Sacred Oils that will be used for ministry during the year.

Join us on Tuesday 26 March from 7pm at Sacred Heart Cathedral.

All are welcome, read more about it: <https://mnnews.today/liturgy-matters/2024/57932-liturgy-matters-come-on-down-to-the-chrism-mass/>  
There's still time to join the choir!

### HUNTER COMMUNITY ALLIANCE FOUNDING ASSEMBLY

The Hunter Community Alliance brings together diverse communities, environmental groups, unions, and religious organisations to advance the common good and achieve a fair, just and sustainable future for the region.

The Founding Assembly is the next milestone of the HCA's four-year journey of listening, training, preparing, and organising. We are encouraging representatives from every Parish to come along so the broader community can witness our commitment to the common good, the dignity of the human person, solidarity, the preferential option for the poor, stewardship of creation and subsidiarity.

The Founding Assembly will take place April 10th, 6:30pm-8:30pm at the University of Newcastle Great Hall, Callaghan. Register here:

<https://events.humanitix.com/hca-founding-assembly>



## REFLECTION

by Richard Leonard

If ever you get the chance to travel to Turkey make sure you go to the Roman ruins at Ephesus. The trip is instructive for all sorts of reasons, not least because two thousand years ago Ephesus was a seaport and now you have to drive inland for over an hour to get there. I wonder what our cities will look like in another two thousand years? But Ephesus is worth the trip. The Roman ruins there, especially the library, are extraordinary. For Christians, however, three other places there capture the imagination. It's the place to which the great letter in the New Testament was addressed. There are the ruins of the hall in which the important Council of Ephesus met, and there are ruins of a monastery built over what is claimed to be the final home of St John, the Beloved Disciple. There is also the much more dubious claim that Mary's final house, and the site of her Assumption, is on top of the mountain overlooking the ancient city.

There are good reasons to believe that the Gospel of John, from which we have just read, was written in Ephesus, 70 years after Jesus' death. I like to think about the context in which the Scriptures were written, not just because it helps me understand some things in the text, but also to appreciate that our Scriptures were inspired by the experience of a flesh and blood community.

Ephesus was a centre of learning, trade, government and religion in the ancient world. We also know that the early Christians were greatly persecuted and martyred there. The early church was filled with stories of betrayal, torture, death and heroic witness to the faith. The stakes for believing in Jesus were very high. And it was the heroic witness of these martyrs that eventually led to the conversion of the Roman Empire to Christianity. It should come as no surprise to us then that John's Gospel should have a special focus on sharing in the sufferings of Jesus and the glory to come.

The words of Jesus in today's Gospel must have been very important to a community that was awash with the blood of their fellow believers. Our foremothers and forefathers in the faith counted themselves blessed to die as Jesus died, alive in the faith of God's love for the world. Just imagine how that community of martyrs first heard these words, 'Unless a grain of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains just a grain of wheat; but if it dies, it produces much fruit.'

By comparison we have it easy today, but martyrdom comes to all believers in different ways. In the broadest sense a martyr is one who is prepared to pay the price

for holding true to Christ. For us now this might mean making serious choices about the company we keep, the business ventures we enter into, the non-violent protests we mount, foregoing luxuries so that others in our world might have necessities, and even remaining faithful to the vows and promises we have made. Christian faith sometimes bites hard, and when it does we know we are sharing in the martyr's lot.

And what should be our response when our faith in Christ costs us something big? Jesus models it for us in today's Gospel, '...what should I say? "Father, save me from this hour." No, it was for this purpose that I came to this hour. Father, glorify your name.'

May this final week of Lent, then, see this flesh and blood community be like our forebears in Ephesus and actively seek out ways of sharing in the martyr's lot by letting go of what is not essential and focusing on the One who loved us to the end.

© 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.

### NEXT SUNDAY IS PALM SUNDAY



As we are unable to source palms through commercial avenues any more, we cordially ask you to bring your own twig of greenery next Sunday for our Palm Sunday celebration.

Notice to St Joseph's Mass attendees – Saturday vigil for Palm Sunday. There will be additional palms available at the main entrance of St Joseph's Church at the vigil Mass (5.30pm, Saturday) for Palm Sunday.

### PARISH LUNCHEON

Parish Luncheon at *Souths Leagues Club, Llewellyn St, Merewether* @ 12.30pm on Monday, 18th March. All welcome. Inquiries to Maureen on 0412 673151.

## REVIEW OF CONFIRMATION GUIDANCE AND PROCEDURES

All parishioners, parents and sponsors, ministers and anyone else involved in the preparation and celebration of Confirmation over recent years, are invited to participate in our review process. Ideally please read [‘Liturgy Matters: It’s Time – Christian Initiation and Confirmation Review \(13 Feb 2024\)’](https://www.mn.catholic.org.au/media/6754/confirmation-review-process.pdf) where everything is explained and the ‘Review Document’ is available. You can access the Review Document directly by using the following link: <https://www.mn.catholic.org.au/media/6754/confirmation-review-process.pdf>

Otherwise, you can access the questionnaire but NOT the background information via this QR code. The closing date is 17 March.

With thanks, Louise Gannon rsj



## aMeN caMiNo

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.

Dates: 6-10 July, 3-7 August and 7-8 September.

Expression of Interest: <https://forms.office.com/r/>

## BEREAVEMENT

Margaret Beard, a parishioner of Stockton, is a member of the recently formed Bereavement Team for the City Region. Should you know of anyone in need of care or counselling, please make contact with Margaret.

## WAY OF THE CROSS

Our Diocese is blessed with rich diversity. This year’s Ecumenical Way of the Cross, held on the 5th Sunday of Lent, invites us into a multicultural journey of remembrance. As we relive the story of Jesus’ Passion, we recall the stories that have brought us together. This event is a celebrated gathering of our wider community and one not to be missed.

When: Sunday 17 March, 3pm (you are invited to gather from 2pm)

Where: St Joseph’s Toronto Church, 140 Wangi Road, Toronto

## VIEW, CHEW, CHAT, AND LECTIO

View, Chew, and Chat returns April 3 for episode 2 of The Chosen. To participate, please email the parish office.

## BOOK CLUB

**Sunday, 7th April @ 6:15pm:** Bookclub meets to discuss *Willow Man* by Inga Simpson. If you would like to participate in book club meetings, please email [newcparish@mn.catholic.org.au](mailto:newcparish@mn.catholic.org.au)



## MEDITATION GROUPS AT LIVING WATERS CENTRE

LIVING WATERS CHRISTIAN MEDITATION 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.

## PALM SUNDAY PEACE RALLY

24 March 2024, 1.30pm to 3.30pm

Hunter Peace Park, opposite Tighes Hill TAFE.

Speakers from various faith, peace and justice perspectives, as well as music, children’s art, banner display, circle dance.

BYO chair and sun protection

## MORNING TEA

All are welcome at the cuppa after 8.00am Mass at

## 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 ), 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.

## EPIC (EVERYTHING POSSIBLE IN CHRIST) YOUNG ADULT GROUP

Are you aged between 20 and 40? Are you interested to share your faith with like-minded young adults? Then our new faith sharing group might be for you! We meet Thursdays @ 7pm in the Cathedral precinct. Email [Elul.tecle@mn.catholic.org.au](mailto:Elul.tecle@mn.catholic.org.au) to find out more.

## 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.

## TAIZE SERVICE

Sunday 7th April  
Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic Church Tighes Hill 5.00pm – 6pm  
*followed by a shared supper.*



## THE CHUCKLE

Nothing begins with N and ends with G.



## ENROLMENTS FOR 2024 SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM

A child's catholic faith journey began with the Sacrament of Baptism and continues by 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 2024. Preparations are completed as a family with online activities and volunteer work within the community.

Enrolments are now open for the 2024 program. If you are interested in being apart of the program this year please visit the parish website and complete the online enrolment form.

<https://www.newcastlecatholic.org.au/sacramental-enrolment-form/>

For more information please contact the office on 49791101 or [newcparish@mn.catholic.org.au](mailto:newcparish@mn.catholic.org.au)

## ART AND SPIRITUALITY WORKSHOP

Creation of art provides an opportunity for a deepening awareness of oneself and the world, and can act as a catalyst for evoking the Spirit. Art is a means to see-to-re-search and find the living meaning of what it means to open the heart. Everyone has the ability to create art, but in order for it to be theological, the artist needs to explore ways that it makes sense of faith. Opening the heart through art involves making meaning through the creation, then reflecting on the art itself and the unfolding the moment-to-moment direct experience of the process.

This workshop will provide an opportunity to awaken the Spirit through the beauty of God's creation, prayer, and reflection. Participants will engage in art making experiences which will nourish their faith.

Date: Thursday 14 March (9am-3pm)

Venue: Kilaben Bay Community Centre

Cost: \$25 per person

Register at: <https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/art-and-spirituality-workshops-2024-tickets-808605269127>

## MEN'S ROSARY GROUP

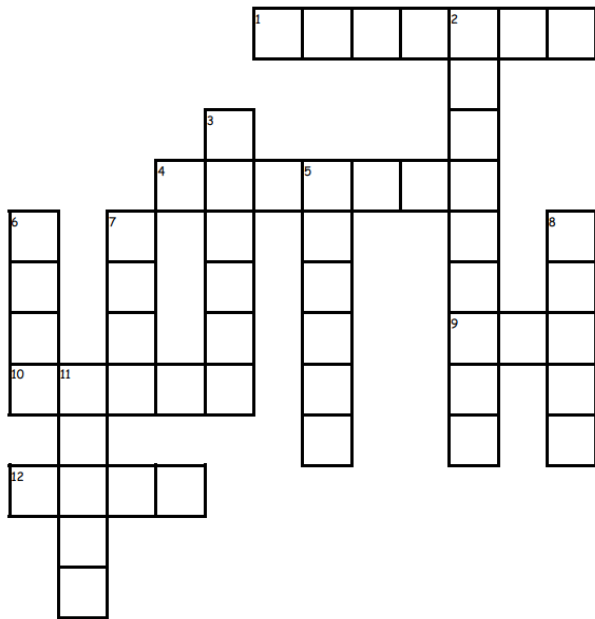
The Men's Rosary will be held on the first Saturday of each month @ 1pm at Sacred Heart Cathedral, 841 Hunter St, Newcastle West. For more Information contact Jason on 0499 854 928.



## CROSSWORD

I will write my laws on their hearts and minds

Jer 31:31-34  
Ps 51:1, 10, 12, R, v.12a  
Jn 12:24-26



### Across

- 1: sure  
4: God will \_\_\_\_\_ our sins  
9: the number before two  
10: God led the people of Israel out of this place  
12: tumble

### Down

- 2: family members who lived a long time ago are called a \_\_\_\_\_  
3: the opposite of remember  
5: grass and other plants grow out of the \_\_\_\_\_  
6: you use a clock to tell the \_\_\_\_\_  
7: to do as you are told  
8: one grain can produce lots of this if it dies  
11: if this falls on the ground and dies it produces lots of wheat

## JUNIOR WORDSEARCH

I will write my laws on their hearts and minds

Jer 31:31-34  
Ps 51:1, 10, 12, R, v.12a  
Jn 12:24-26

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

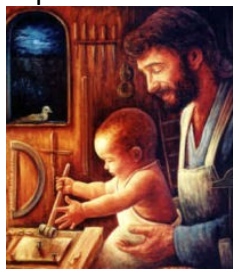
Try to find these words:

ancestors  
certain  
Egypt  
fall  
forget  
forgive  
grain  
ground  
obey  
one  
time  
wheat



## ST. JOSEPH

Most of our information about St. Joseph comes from the opening two chapters of St. Matthew's Gospel. No words of his are recorded in the Gospels; he was the "silent" man. We find no devotion to St. Joseph in the early Church. It was the will of God that the Virgin Birth of Our Lord be first firmly impressed upon the minds of the faithful. He was later venerated by the great saints of the Middle Ages. Pius IX (1870) declared him patron and protector of the universal family of the Church



St. Joseph was an ordinary manual laborer although descended from the royal house of David. In the designs of Providence he was destined to become the spouse of the Mother of God. His high privilege is expressed in a single phrase, "Foster-father of Jesus." About him Sacred Scripture has little more to say than that he was a just man—an expression which indicates how faithfully he fulfilled his high trust of protecting and guarding God's greatest treasures upon earth, Jesus and Mary.

The darkest hours of his life may well have been those when he first learned of Mary's pregnancy; but precisely in this time of trial Joseph showed himself great. His suffering, which likewise formed a part of the work of the redemption, was not without great providential import: Joseph was to be, for all times, the trustworthy witness of the Messiah's virgin birth. After this, he modestly retires into the background of holy Scripture.

Of St. Joseph's death the Bible tells us nothing. There are indications, however, that he died before the beginning of Christ's public life.

At present there are two major feasts in his honor. On March 19 our veneration is directed to him personally and to his part in the work of redemption, while on May 1 we honor him as the patron of workmen throughout the world and as our guide in the difficult matter of establishing equitable norms regarding obligations and rights in the social order. —Excerpted from *The Church's Year of Grace*, Pius Parsch

St. Joseph is invoked as patron for many causes. He is the patron of the Universal Church. He is the patron of the dying because Jesus and Mary were at his death-bed. He is also the patron of fathers, of carpenters, and of social justice. Many religious orders and communities are placed under his patronage. (<https://www.catholicculture.org>)

Happy Feast Day to our Sisters of St Joseph and indeed, to all who worship at St Joseph's

## CHILDREN'S MISSION PARTNERS:

The collective efforts and generosity of the Tighes Hill Catholic community will be celebrated at the monthly morning tea in April, after a significant fundraising milestone was achieved recently. Following the 8am Mass at the Immaculate Heart of Mary Church, Catholic Mission is inviting locals to celebrate the achievement of \$50,000 worth of donations, from parishioners over the past three decades. There also will be an acknowledgement of the individual efforts of long-term Tighes Hill resident and parishioner, Margaret Crockett. She has been collecting the funds from different parishioners, recording them in her exercise books and passing the funds on to Catholic Mission, for its work with children in need around the world. All are invited to join the community for morning tea, after Mass on Sunday, April 21.

## 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](http://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](http://www.merewetherbeach.catholic.edu.au)

### St Columban's Primary School

Penny Banister (*Principal*)

Church Street, Mayfield NSW 2304

P:(02) 4968 3315

W:[www.mayfieldsc.catholic.edu.au](http://www.mayfieldsc.catholic.edu.au)

### St Peter's Primary School

Michael Punch (*Principal*)

Dunbar St, Stockton NSW 2295

P:(02) 4928 1861

W:[www.stockton.catholic.edu.au](http://www.stockton.catholic.edu.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