



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 18TH AUGUST 2024

20TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, YEAR B

Our Clergy

Fr John Lovell
Fr Anthony Coloma
Fr Anil Kumar Kuchipudi
Deacon Solomon Okovido
Deacon Kevin Gadd

Regional Office—St Benedict's Centre

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PO Box 6, The Junction 2291
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W: www.newcastlecatholic.org.au
W: www.sacredhearthamilton.org.au

Our Staff

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

Promotors 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

Why do we come to Mass? Hopefully, as well as to give thanks and praise to God, to be changed. At every Mass we witness the bread and wine being changed into Jesus. And the Word of God invites us to be changed too. So, how open are we to change (including very unexpected change): in ourselves, in the people around us and in our world? 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)

20th Week of Ordinary Time, Year B

Monday 19th August

8:15am Mass @ The Cathedral

Tuesday 20th August

Memorial of St Bernard

8:15am Mass @ The Cathedral

9:00am Mass @ Stockton

Wednesday 21st August

Memorial of St Pius X

8:15am Mass @ The Cathedral

9:00am Mass @ Mayfield West

Thursday 22nd August

Memorial of The Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary

8:15am Mass @ The Cathedral

9:00am Mass @ Stockton

9:30am Funeral Mass for Lino Bertocchini @ St Joseph's

2:00pm Funeral for John Ryan @ St Joseph's

Friday 23rd August

10:15am Mass @ St Joseph's

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

12:05pm Mass @ The Cathedral

1:00pm Funeral for Fay Larkin @ St Joseph's

Saturday 24th August

Feast of St Bartholomew

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 25th August

21st Sunday in Ordinary Time, 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

5:30pm Mass @ Mayfield West (Vietnamese) **

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

** The Vietnamese Mass is now celebrated fortnightly

PRAYER REQUESTS

RECENTLY DECEASED: Sister Paula Redgrove RSM, John Bernard Ryan, Fay Larkin, Lino Bertocchini, Sr Frances Caine OP (Sr Antoninus)

ANNIVERSARIES: Jacob Poile, Catherine Garvey, Janet Bryant, Shirley Wade, Sr. Pauline Murray rsm, Brian Nunn, Evelyn May Woodland, Helena Caskey,



SICK: Brenda Simanec, Bruce Ryan, Patty Lane, Peter Majdandzic, Lisa Woodland, Conchita Ponte, Joyce Saranillo, Ronoel Diwa, John Woodward, Loreta Habulan, Peter & Bev Woods Leeton, Tui Innes, Marko Kefecsek, Jolina Joyce Saranillo, Maureen Dwyer, Angela Cottier, Joshua Zalanardo, Rosa Silivinec, Harry Melville, Doreen Mason, Elaine Johnson, Mark Caesar, Peter Kefecsek, 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.

OUR BELOVED DEAD

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

At Sacred Heart

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

At St Joseph's:

Margaret Bailey	Clare McDonnell
Eileen Baxter	Anne Elizabeth Meighan
Helena Esther Caskey	Marie O'Callaghan
Mary Corlis	Francis Page
Patricia Ethel Davis	Thomas Rae
Laurence Bede Dowling	Betty Smith
Noel Dowzer	Peter Thompson
Kevin Doyle	Norma Walters
Cyril Fernando	

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

PARISH BULLETIN

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

THE GREATEST GIFT

Have you noticed that on Mothers' Day, the gifts which mothers seem to most appreciate are the simplest: a drawing however scribbled or daubed with paint with the words 'I love you Mum'; a posy of flowers from the garden tied with a little ribbon; breakfast in bed (with the crumbs from the burnt toast in the sheets for days afterwards!).

It seems that the gift which means the most is the one into which the son or daughter has put something of themselves.

When we celebrate the Feast of the Assumption, we celebrate the most superlative Mothers' Day. Our Risen Lord Jesus Christ gave to His mother not merely something of Himself, but everything of Himself, His own life, His own resurrection life.

He gave to her a share in His glorified humanity: bodysoul transformed, transfigured into the heavenly dimension of existence.

But Our Lord does not limit His generosity. He wants all of us, he wants the whole of humankind, indeed He wants the whole of the cosmos to share in His transformed, transfigured existence.

We believe that when we come forward at Holy Communion we take into ourselves the transformed, glorified humanity of Our Risen Lord Jesus Christ.

When we take the sacrament under the appearance of bread, under the appearance of wine, we so eat and drink that, in the wonderful words of Pope John Paul II: 'We digest, as it were, the secret of the Resurrection.'

For a short time, we anticipate in our own bodies what Mary now fully and eminently experiences.

As Our Lord assures us in today's gospel: 'Anyone who does eat my flesh and drink my blood *has* eternal life.' Note the present tense: *has* eternal life, i.e. Divine Life as mediated through our participation in Christ.

That it is why it is important in normal circumstances to accept the consecrated wine from the chalice and not to take the sacrament just under the appearance of the consecrated bread.

When I was a boy (is it so long ago?) it was still the rule at Mass that only the priest drank from the chalice. One of the great actions of the Church over the last forty years is the recovery of the ancient practice of offering Holy Communion under both kinds.

Not only is the reception of both consecrated bread

and consecrated wine in harmony with today's gospel, but it also clearly fulfils Our Lord's command: 'Take, eat ... take, drink.'

Of course, Our Risen Lord is really and wholly present under the appearance of either the bread or wine. They are consecrated separately as did Our Lord at the Last Supper.

Let us thank God for this gift, this opportunity, beyond any human expectation or reckoning.

It is the Risen Lord whom we ingest at Holy Communion. When we do so, we do so with the words of today's Gospel resonating in our own bodies: 'He who eats my flesh and drinks my blood lives in me and I live in him.'

What an anticipation for a short time of that which Our Lady now experiences fully and forever. What a communion! What a Holy Communion!

© Fr Michael Tate, www.liturgyhelp.com.au

LIVING GOSPEL

You are what you eat

In a world that is obsessed with health and fitness and yet, ironically, also experiencing an ever-increasing overweight and obese population, what we eat has come under greater scrutiny than ever before. 'You are what you eat' has become a catchcry for healthy eating but Catholics have known the truth of this statement for centuries. When we participate in the Eucharist, we not only receive the body of Christ; we become the body of Christ. The people who make up the Church in the world are indeed the body of Christ. In the words of St Teresa, 'Christ has no body now but yours!'

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS:

Twenty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year B

Josh 24:1-2, 15-18

Eph 5:21-32

Jn 6:60-69



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

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.

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.



WEDNESDAY ROSARY

Pray the Rosary each Wednesday immediately after 8:15am Mass in Sacred Heart Cathedral, 841 Hunter St, Newcastle West.

EPIC (EVERYTHING POSSIBLE IN CHRIST) YOUNG ADULT GROUP

Meet Thursdays @ 6pm in the Cathedral precinct. Anyone aged between 20 and 40 is cordially invited to join the group. Email Elul.tecle@mn.catholic.org.au to find out more.

VIEW, CHEW, CHAT, AND LECTIO

View, Chew, and Chat meets August 21 for Lectio Divina. To participate, please email the parish office.

PRAYER GROUP

Junction Prayer/Discussion Group Monthly meetings occur on the last Thursday of each month at 9:30am in Parish meeting room.

TAIZE SERVICE

Sunday 1st September Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic Church Tighes Hill 5.00pm – 6pm *followed by a shared supper.*

You can read about it in the Aurora article "A spirit of joy, simplicity and reconciliation" available in the Diocesan website: <http://mnnews.today>



BOOK CLUB

Sunday, 1st September @ 6:15pm: Bookclub meets to discuss *Chai Time at Cinnamon Gardens* by Shankari Chandran. If you would like to participate in book club meetings, please email newcparish@mn.catholic.org.au

MASS TO BE CELEBRATED IN THE LATIN TRIDENTINE RITE

For many years, the diocese has provided opportunities for Catholics wishing to attend Mass and pray according to the liturgical books of 1962. Since COVID we have had some difficulty finding a priest qualified and available to celebrate this Mass. Since the diocese no longer has priests who are able to celebrate the 1962 liturgy in conformity with *Traditionis Custodes*, the Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle has entered an agreement with the Fraternity of St Peter, District of Oceania (FSSP), to provide a priest to meet the sacramental needs of this Community.

Fr Richard Wallace, FSSP is being appointed as the Latin Mass Chaplain for the Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle. Mass will be every Sunday, starting 18 August 2024 at 9.30am at St John the Baptist Oratory, Cathedral St Maitland.

For more info on the Priestly Fraternity of St Peter (FSSP), please see www.fssp.org

Yours in Christ

Most Reverend Michael Kennedy

Bishop of Maitland-Newcastle

DIVINE MERCY DEVOTION

First Sunday of the Month @ 3:00pm
September 1st
Chaplet of Divine Mercy
Christ the King, Mayfield West

SEASON OF CREATION WONDER – WEAVING – HEALING

Join Catholic Earthcare and their Season of Creation Convocation for three special events in September.

Thurs 12 and Fri 13 September - online keynote presentations, workshops, discussions and spiritual experiences

Sat 14 September at Diocesan Resource Centre - hear about and discuss regenerative projects within and beyond our diocese and consider how we can contribute. Morning tea and lunch supplied as part of registration.

Information/Registration at: www.trybooking.com/events/landing/1231165

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,

E childprotection@mn.catholic.org.au or

www.officeofsafeguarding.org.au

COMMUNITY KITCHEN OPENING HOURS

As we enter winter, more people in our community will need help. CatholicCare's Community Kitchens can be accessed by anyone who needs a warm meal or support. Five locations operate across the Hunter and Mid-North Coast. including:

- Hamilton South: Every Wednesday, 12pm to 1pm at 29 Fowler Street, Hamilton South
- Newcastle: Every Saturday, 5.30pm to 6.30pm (6.30pm to 7.30pm during Daylight Savings) at Civic Park, King Street, Newcastle
- Toronto: Every Thursday, 5pm to 6.30pm at 97 The Boulevard, Toronto

AMEN CAMiNO – SEASONS OF CREATION WEEKEND RETREAT

Join us for an aMeN caMiNo weekend experience during this year's Season of Creation at the beautiful Myall Coast. This caMiNo is suitable for both beginners and experienced walkers. It offers a one- or two-day experience on September 7th and 8th.

For more information visit our website:
mn.catholic.org.au/church-mission/catholic-life/faith-formation/amen-camino

SEEKING YOUR ASSISTANCE WITH THE 'ABSENT FROM THE TABLE' RESEARCH PROJECT

The Australian Catholic Bishops Conference is undertaking a research project aimed at investigating why some Catholics do not participate in regular weekly Sunday Mass (Sunday Mass includes the Saturday Vigil). The project will provide in-depth information about contemporary religious practices and beliefs of Catholics in Australia. The insights would enable parishes, movements, and school communities to respond to the trends in participation in the Church, update the Church's awareness and understanding of the present-day context, and enable responses and collaboration around the underlying factors for non/dis-engagement.

We have been asked to seek the assistance of people who meet the selection criteria for this survey:

1. That they self-identify as Catholics and are 18 years and over.
2. That they do not regularly* attend weekly Mass on Sundays.

*Regular weekly attendance is defined as physical attendance at Sunday Mass three or more times a month, including the Saturday vigil celebrated in many parishes.

If you know of anyone who fits this criteria and might be happy to assist with this research, please show/forward them this message and invite them to use the link/address below to open up and complete the survey, which is currently open and will close on **Tuesday, 20 August 2024**. The survey is anonymous, participants can decline to answer any questions, withdraw from the survey at any time and obtain further information and gain access to the research findings via email: ncpr@catholic.org.au or www.ncpr.catholic.org.au.

Link: <https://bit.ly/AbsentFromTheTableSurvey>

We thank you for your assistance with this valuable research.

ACBC National Centre for Pastoral Research

SUPPORT YOUR PARISH VIA THE APP

Are you using the App? Not only can you get the daily readings on your phone, you can also support the parish with an easy way to donate.

You can download the app for free from the Apple App Store and Google Play Store. Just search for 'Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle' and click install on your mobile or tablet!

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-research 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: Friday 13 September (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>



SEASON OF CREATION – CREATION SINGS

Saturday 21 September 2024, 2-4pm, Sacred Heart Cathedral. All in the Newcastle, Hunter and Manning community are invited to gather to sing in praise and wonder of creation as a celebration of the Season of Creation. In the spirit of community choirs, we will learn a song, pray, and enjoy afternoon tea. Register at <https://forms.office.com/r/xKCr907ew6> Please bring a cutting of a favourite plant. We will exchange our cuttings during the prayer. Those who love taking photos of nature can join the Season of Creation Photography initiative and send your image/s to rose.mcallister@mn.catholic.org.au by 16/09/24. The images will be displayed at Creation Sings.

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.

DIOCESAN RESOURCE CENTRE AUGUST AND SEPTEMBER EVENTS

Amended Opening Hours: Mondays and Fridays, 10am to 5pm

Open 1st & 3rd Saturday of each month – beginning August 2024

30 August 2024 at 10.15am, Human Library – Preparing for Seasons of Creation. Our featured Human Book will be Sr Carmel Moore rsj, discussing Laudato Si & Seasons of Creation. What does this mean for Church & our World? Registration: <https://forms.office.com/r/1GEzWxaDig>

5 & 12 September at 4 – 5.30pm, BBI Short Course – The Prophets. One of the largest sections of the Bible is made up of the prophetic books. The books of the prophets are centred on the lives and teachings of prophets and their disciples. You might have heard about the prophets' calls to social justice. However, there's more to their mission than this. What did the prophets say and why did they say it? And why did it end up in the Bible? Registration: <https://forms.office.com/r/4iWbSERmwV>

6 September at 10.15am, Children's Storytime. Stories, songs, rhymes & craft for children from birth to 6 years. Registration: <https://forms.office.com/r/NcXE5midc>

6 September at 1:00pm, Formation Friday – Seasons of Creation. Registration: <https://forms.office.com/r/U0q0qUp4JQ>

7 September at 11:00am, Formation Films – The Tree of Life.

This 2011 release film chronicles the origins and meaning of life by way of a middle-aged man's childhood memories of his family living in 1950s Texas, interspersed with imagery of the origins of the universe and the inception of life on Earth. Lunch, Tea & Coffee provided. Registration: <https://forms.office.com/r/GbNTPA2DWt>

PARISH LUNCHEON

Parish Luncheon at *Souths Leagues Club, Llewellyn St, Merewether* @ 12.30pm on Monday, 19th August. All welcome. Inquiries to Maureen (Tighes Hill) on 0412 673151.

THE CHUCKLES

What's better than a good friend?
A good friend with chocolate.

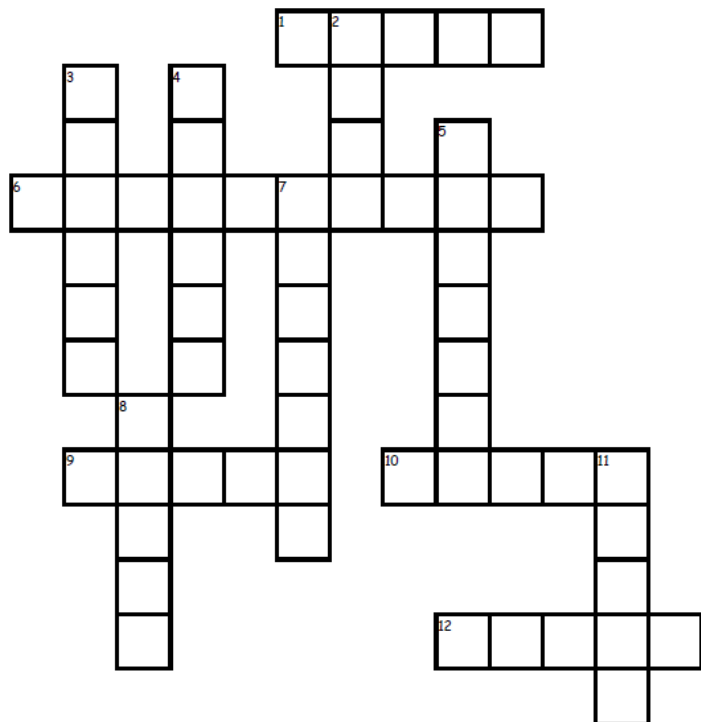


How do you fix a broken tomato?
With tomato paste

CROSSWORD

Praise the Lord with all your heart

Prv 9:1-6
Ps 34:1-2, 9-10, R. v.9a
Eph 5:15-20
Jn 6:51-58



Across

- 1: Jesus said, 'My _____ is the true food, and my blood is the true drink.'
- 6: Wisdom sent her servant women to announce this from the hills
- 9: the opposite of men
- 10: Jesus told the crowd, 'I am the _____ from heaven!'
- 12: we praise God by singing psalms and _____

Down

- 2: Jesus told the crowd they would be raised to life on the _____ day
- 3: sixty seconds equal one of these
- 4: God wants us to let the _____ fill our lives
- 5: everyone who eats the bread from heaven will live _____
- 7: the people were confused by Jesus' words and started _____
- 8: a type of building people live in
- 11: you do this when you are thirsty

SENIOR WORDSEARCH

Praise the Lord with all your heart

Prv 9:1-6
Ps 34:1-2, 9-10, R. v.9a
Eph 5:15-20
Jn 6:51-58

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

Try to find these words:

arguing
bread
drink
flesh
forever
house
hymns
invitation
last
minute
Spirit
women

TODAY'S LITURGY

Entrance Antiphon: Psalm 83:10-11

Turn your eyes, O God, our shield;
and look on the face of your anointed one;
one day within your courts
is better than a thousand elsewhere.

First Reading: Proverbs 9:1-6

Come and eat my bread; drink the wine I have prepared.

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 33:2-3. 10-15. R. v.9

(R.) Taste and see the goodness of the Lord.

1. I will bless the Lord at all times,
his praise always on my lips;
in the Lord my soul shall make its boast.
The humble shall hear and be glad. (R.)
2. Revere the Lord, you his saints.
They lack nothing, those who revere him.
Strong lions suffer want and go hungry
but those who seek the Lord lack no blessing. (R.)
3. Come children, and hear me
that I may teach you the fear of the Lord.
Who is he who longs for life
and many days, to enjoy his prosperity? (R.)
4. Then keep your tongue from evil
and your lips from speaking deceit.
Turn aside from evil and do good;
seek and strive after peace. (R.)

Second Reading: Ephesians 5:15-20

Be watchful that you may know the will of God.

Gospel Acclamation: John 6:56

Alleluia, alleluia!
All who eat my flesh and drink my blood
live in me and I in them, says the Lord.
Alleluia!

Gospel: John 6:51-58

My flesh is real food and my blood is real drink.

Communion Antiphon: Psalm 129:7

With the Lord there is mercy;
in him is plentiful redemption.

OUR CATHOLIC 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

Penny Banister (*Principal*)
Church Street, Mayfield NSW 2304
P:(02) 4968 3315
W: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

St Francis Xavier's College

Greg Ptolemy (*Principal*)
Parkway Avenue, Hamilton NSW 2303
P:(02) 4961 2863
W:www.hamilton.catholic.edu.au

GOSPEL FOCUS

Real Presence

The Real Presence of Christ in the Eucharist is a central doctrine of the Catholic faith. It is regarded as a revealed truth proved by both scripture and tradition. This week's gospel, indeed the entire 'Bread of Life' discourse (Jn 6:26-72), is an essential passage of scripture that supports the teaching of Christ present in the Eucharist. Along with scripture, the other proof of the doctrine is tradition. Since the first century, only a brief time after the death of Jesus, Christians linked their celebration of Eucharist with the words of Jesus at the last supper – they celebrated Eucharist as a memorial of Jesus.