

Sunday 30th August 2026

22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A



Dear Parish Family,

Social Justice Sunday

I want to recommend to you the latest social justice statement of the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference, 'Living the Gospel in a Time of Social Division'. It is prompt, given the events of recent times here in Australia and Overseas. What we consider Christian social norms seem to be under attack. This year the bishops have issued two statements, this one in August and the one in February which addresses the cost-of-living crisis that communities and individuals are experiencing. Both can be found by following this link [Social Justice Statements](https://www.catholic.au/s/article/Social-Justice-Statements) if you are accessing this bulletin by email, or by typing www.catholic.au/s/article/Social-Justice-Statements into your web browser.



Both are important reads and offer important challenges. Living the 'joy' of the gospels in our modern world is difficult. As you read the latest of the statements you might look out for these lines:

1. *"Let us remember that love lives through sacrifice and is nourished by giving ... without sacrifice there is no love."* These are the words of Maximilian Kolbe just before he took the place of another prisoner in Auschwitz and in the gas chambers. *'In offering his own life so that another man might live, Kolbe demonstrated the power of a radical Christ-like, sacrificial love'.*
2. *In the current context, people are increasingly encouraged to define themselves and others by political allegiance, cultural identity or ideological alignment. The Church proposes a different understanding of human identity. It proposes that we are not defined by our affiliations or preferences, but rather by our shared origin and destiny as daughters and sons of God made in the image of the one God who is trinitarian, as imago dei ('image of God').*
3. *Justice, kindness and humility (Micah 6:8) must shape our approach to encounters with others. Those to whom we reach out should not be seen as objects of our pity, charity or generosity. Justice demands that we accept them as companions in a mutual pursuit of healing and the common good.*
4. *Across the community, people from different backgrounds and beliefs are experiencing rising hostility. Words and actions that demean, threaten or target others have become more common, and abuse and violence directed at individuals and communities have become more prevalent. Attacks on property are also rising. The consequence of all these incidents and the intolerance, discrimination and prejudice which underlie them, is that many Australians live in great fear. We have long believed that Australians, for the most part, live in harmony and peace. Recent events challenge that belief.*
5. *Digital platforms might be worsening division and polarisation in a less obvious way: time spent on devices is time not spent in community with other people. Research continues to show alarming increases in social isolation, as community groups, church congregations, unions and sporting clubs struggle to bring people physically together.*

It is well worth the read. Both statements this year are worth the read and the reflection and a proper response.

Regards,

Greg, Parish Priest

Parish Priest

Fr Greg Barker

Assisting Clergy

Fr Niel Olano

Fr Ramille Bigcas

Fr Stany Mathew

Deacon Kevin Gadd

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Anne Warren (Business Manager)

Jenny Pascua (Parish Secretary)

Peter Davies (Administration)

Mary-Anne de Luca (Sacraments)

Dr Anne Millard (Music & Liturgy)

New to our Parishes?

Join our mailing list to stay up to date and involved in our parish communities. **SCAN QR**

Register via

<https://tinyurl.com/newcparishcensus>



The Parish Diary...(for the week ahead)

22nd week in Ordinary Time, Year 2

Mon 31 Aug

7:30am Mass @ The Cathedral

Tues 1 Sept *World Day of Prayer for Creation*

7:30am Mass @ The Cathedral

9:00am Mass @ Stockton (anointing)

10:30am Funeral Liturgy for Myra Vaughan @ Stockton

Wed 2 Sept

7:30am Mass @ The Cathedral

9:00am Mass @ Mayfield West

9:00am San Clemente Yr 9/10 Mass

10:00am Funeral Liturgy for Martin Smith @ The Cathedral

Thur 3 Sept *St Gregory the Great, pope, doctor*

7:30am Mass @ The Cathedral

9:00am Mass @ Stockton

10:30am Funeral Mass for Caterina Di Renzo @ Mayfield West

11:00am Funeral Mass for Colin Bryant @ The Cathedral

11:00am Mass @ Irwin Hall, Mayfield

Fri 4 Sept

8:00am St Columban's Fathers' Day Liturgy

9:00am The Junction school Fathers' Day Liturgy

9:15am Stockton school Father's Day Liturgy

10:15am Mass @ The Junction (anointing)

11:00am Exposition, Adoration and Reconciliation @The Cathedral

12.05pm Mass @ The Cathedral

Sat 5 Sept *St Teresa of Calcutta*

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

23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sat 5 Sept

5:30pm Vigil Mass @ The Cathedral

5:30pm Vigil Mass @ The Junction

5:30pm Vigil Mass @ Mayfield West

Sun 6 Sept

7:30am Mass @ St Mary's

8:00am Mass @ Tighes Hill

9:00am Mass @ Stockton

9:30am Mass @ The Cathedral

11:00am Italian Mass @ The Junction

12noon Polish Mass @ The Cathedral

5:00pm Mass @ The Cathedral

Prayer Requests



RECENTLY DECEASED: Myra Vaughan, Colin Bryant, Nicolo Fazzini, Sr Margaret Blackford O.P., Fay Connolly, Rose Allyjan, Gary Valaire, Robert Woolston, Caterina Di Rienzo, Martin Smith

ANNIVERSARIES: John Fitzpatrick, Joanne Fitzgerald (nee Dwyer), John Raymond Baynie, Winifred Hart, Charles Hart, Terry Hart, Terry Ryan, Max Geatches, Wal Pleasant, Joseph Dunne, Patricia Nolan, Carmel Jennings, Paul White, Sheila Conlon

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK: Rowena Justiniani, Clem Mead, Monica Skehan, Maree Sargeant, Tanya Ng, Alex Quirin, Rachael McLellan, Wally McLellan, John Hayes, Jeremy Eden, Braxton Rayner, Patricia Gillett, Tui Innes, Raymond Morley, Louise Hall, Toan Nguyen, Eileen Jennings, Gwen Haggerty, Alexander Klein, Leonetta Papichio, John Woods, Hoagy VanEwyk, Martyn Docherty, Maureen Hall

PRAYERFUL SUPPORT: For the people of Nepal and Tibet, and foreign nationals affected by the tragedy.

Our Columbaria

Those with August anniversaries of death:

At The Cathedral:

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

At St Joseph's:

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

Note: The Rosary will be prayed each Wednesday after Mass at **Mayfield West**.

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

Social Justice Sunday 2026

"Living the Gospel in Times of Social Division"



Bishop Michael Kennedy reflects on the latest Australian Catholic Bishops Conference Social Justice Statement and the Gospel call to be people of encounter and reconciliation. Scan the QR code or visit [https://tinyurl.com/](https://tinyurl.com/CDMNMKSocialjustice)

[CDMNMKSocialjustice](https://tinyurl.com/CDMNMKSocialjustice).

Bishop Michael's letter includes a link to the Social Justice Statement.



Sri Lankan Community Get Together

Dear families,

I am continuing my conversations with the various cultural and language groups that make up our wonderful parish. I would like to invite members of the Sri Lankan community to meet with me over a shared meal on Sunday 27 September commencing 11.30am in the Toohey Room, opposite the Cathedral. As always, you bring the food and the clergy share! Any cultural and language groups who would like to meet with me please feel free to reach out to me. Many conversations are best made over a meal, and I am always available for a meal.

Fr Greg

Pastoral Care Team Meeting



The Committee will be having their meeting on Thursday 3rd September, 2.30pm at the Murray Room.

Parish Teams

Promoters of Safeguarding: Louise Outram, Cynthia Tamonan, Alex Tamonan, Sr Kath Williams rsm, Annie Evans.

Bereavement Team: Margaret Cox, Gail Lovell, Christopher Gregory, Margaret Beard, Margaret Newton, Anne Millard.

St Joseph's Pastoral Team: Contact Parish Office.

RCIA: Contact Mary-Anne at the Parish Office.

Sacramental Program: Contact Mary-Anne at the Parish Office.

Baptism team: Meets on the first Tuesday of the month, with parents preparing for their children's baptism.

Assembly

You're Invited to Assembly Session Four

Walking Together in Hope

Saturday 12 September

9.30 am – 3.00 pm

Over the past three Assembly gatherings, we have listened deeply to one another, prayerfully discerned where the Holy Spirit is leading our communities, and identified the priorities that will help shape the future of the City Pastoral Region.

Assembly Session Four marks an important step in this shared journey. Your voice matters. Your experience matters. Your contribution is valued.

We warmly invite you to join us as we continue discerning God's call for our City Pastoral Region and take the next step in walking together with faith, hope and purpose.

Together we will:

- **Review** the draft Strategic Pastoral Framework.
- **Confirm** that it reflects the voices and priorities heard throughout the Assembly journey.
- **Contribute** to the development of our shared Vision and Mission statements.
- **Discern** the next steps that will guide our region into the future.
- **Commit** ourselves to walking together in Communion, Participation and Mission.

"Together, let us ensure that the voices we have heard become the vision we embrace and the mission we live."

RSVP thru this link or use the QR code:

<https://tinyurl.com/Sep12Assembly>

RCIA

Do you know someone who is interested in becoming Catholic? Perhaps that person is you.

The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) is for adults who would like to learn more about the Catholic faith, prepare for Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist, and be received into the Catholic Church.

Join Fr Greg and the RCIA team for an Information Evening:

1 **Tuesday 15 September**

🕒 7:00pm – 8:30pm

📍 Diocesan Resource Centre (Next door to the Sacred Heart Cathedral)

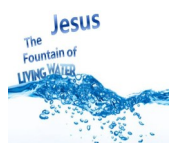
Please scan the QR Code to register. Come along, ask questions, and discover more about the Catholic faith in a welcoming and supportive environment.

RCIA Information Evening
Registration



Regular Opportunities for Prayer

- **Tighes Hill Christian Meditation** - each Monday 3.30pm at Immaculate Heart of Mary Church Tighes Hill

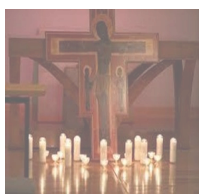


- **Living Waters Meditation Centre** - each Wednesday 7.30am and Friday 11.00am at 34 Kenrick St The Junction

- **The Rosary** - each day after 7.30am Mass at The Cathedral; each Wednesday after Mass at Mayfield West; first Saturday of the month after Mass and Novena at The Cathedral.

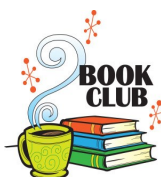


- **Divine Mercy Devotion** - first Sunday of the month 3.00-4.00pm at Christ the King, Mayfield West.
- **Taize Service** - first Sunday of the month 5.00 - 6.00pm at Immaculate Heart of Mary Church, Tighes Hill, followed by a shared supper.



Parish Group Meetings

Book Club next meeting is Sunday, 6 September: We will discuss *James* by Jean Percival Everett. If you would like to participate in book club meetings, please email: newcparish@mn.catholic.org.au



View, Chew, and Chat: You are very welcome to join us on Wednesdays! To participate, please email the parish office: newcparish@mn.catholic.org.au

St Joseph's Prayer/Discussion

Group meets on the last Thursday of each month: Next meeting: Thursday 24 September at 9.30am, in the Junction Meeting Room.



Food Baskets for the Needy



Blue bins in our churches are available for your donations: Items of dry goods or tin food can be placed in the blue bins located at our churches. When donating please check expiry dates. We ask that you do not donate peanut butter. Any of the following non-perishable items are welcome: UHT milk, cereal, spreads, tinned goods, pasta, rice, pasta sauces, tea, coffee, biscuits, custard, jelly, toothpaste, toothbrushes, soap, shampoo, conditioner, deodorant.

Urgent: Accommodation in Stockton Area

Female in her 30's, with an 8 year old daughter and a small pet dog, is **urgently** seeking rental accommodation – preferably in Stockton or in a surrounding area such as Mayfield or Newcastle. A small two-bedroom house, unit or granny flat arrangement would be suitable. Please contact the parish office on 4979 1101 or email newcparish@mn.catholic.org.au if you can assist.



EPIC Young Adults

EPIC is a space for 18-35 year olds in our pastoral region, wherever you are on your faith journey.

Stay in touch by joining our WhatsApp with this QR code or following us on Insta at @epicnewcastle.



Thursday 3rd September - Annual General Meeting -

With some members of the EPIC organising committee stepping back from their roles, all young adults in our parish are invited to come and see how the group works and to step up to the plate to assist with this critical ministry! We are looking for young adults (18-35) who are interested in engaging other young people in their faith, encouraging them to go deeper with Jesus, and empowering them to live this faith in the world. No experience necessary, just a willing heart and availability to help out! If you want to keep seeing awesome events for young people, we need you! The meeting will be in the Diocesan Resource Centre from 6pm. If you have any questions, please contact Jono on 0432504217.

Pray for our First Holy Communion Candidates



We invite you to pray for the children preparing for the sacrament of Holy Communion this term.

Prayer leaf cards, each bearing the name of a child, are available in all our Mass Centres. Don't hesitate to approach our volunteers.

Please take one to pray for the child, and return the leaf with a card of inspiration for the child.

Thank you so much for your support and prayers!



Children's Liturgy - Can you help?

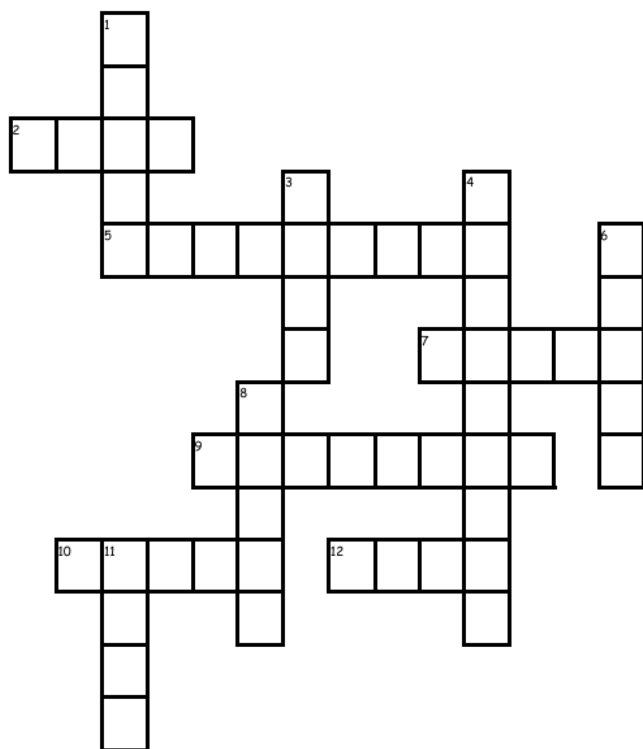
Our first formation sessions started with a good number of volunteers! But good news, you can still join, the more the merrier!

Formation sessions will continue next 3 consecutive Wednesdays (September 2nd, 9th, 16th), 6pm to 7pm in the Toohey Room. Volunteers are asked to attend any 2 sessions.

Please call the parish office or sign up via <https://tinyurl.com/eoivolunteerform>.

CROSSWORD

My soul is thirsting for God



Jer 20:7-9
Ps 63:1abc, 2-3, 4-5, R, v, 2b
Rom 12:1-2
Mt 16:21-25

Across

- 2: kind, nice
- 5: to give up something for the greater good
- 7: when there is little or no noise
- 9: this man was a prophet
- 10: after how many days was Jesus raised to life?
- 12: move upward

Down

- 1: the wooden structure used in a crucifixion
- 3: this gives off heat and light
- 4: Jesus decided he must go to this city
- 6: the devil
- 8: this man did not want to believe what was going to happen to Jesus
- 11: sacred, worthy of worship

Safeguarding - "Stranger Danger for Children"

'Stranger danger' for children means being careful around people they do not know. Children should know that most strangers are **not** dangerous, but it is important to stay safe and make smart choices.

Children should never go anywhere with a stranger, even if the person offers them toys, lollies, money, or says that their parent has sent them. They should also avoid getting into a stranger's car or telling strangers personal information, such as their home address, school, or phone number. If a stranger makes them feel uncomfortable, children should move away and find a trusted adult such as a parent with young children, teacher, police officer, shop assistant or another safe adult. If someone tries to grab or take them, they should yell loudly "**Let go!**", run to a safe place, and ask for help.

Children should also use the **buddy system** by staying with friends or family when possible. Most importantly, they should trust their feelings. If something feels wrong or unsafe, it is okay to say "**No!**", move away, and tell a trusted adult. Learning these simple safety rules can help children feel confident and stay safe. Next week's article will address **Stranger Danger for Seniors**.

Bequests

To help our Catholic Pastoral Region continue its mission of proclaiming the Good News, you might consider including us in your Will. You just need to specify which parish(es) you would like to help.

Donation Options

For anyone who wishes to make donations to the parish via direct deposit:

Account name: **CDF** BSB: **066739**

Account number: **see below***

Reference: **Donation [Surname]**

*Account numbers:

Newcastle Parish - Account no: 100008696

Mayfield Parish - Account no: 100007169

Stockton Parish - Account no: 100003308

OR Scan a QR Code:



ST. BENEDICT'S INNER NEWCASTLE PARISHES
Sacred Heart Cathedral | St. Joseph's Junction
St. Mary's Star of the Sea | Immaculate Heart of Mary Tighes Hill



CHRIST THE KING CHURCH
MAYFIELD



ST PETER IN CHAINS CHURCH
STOCKTON

Church Volunteers - We Need You

To those who already volunteer at our different Churches a sincere THANK YOU, because without you it just wouldn't happen, *but* we are looking to expand our pool of volunteers.

So, if you have an hour or two to spare once a week, or fortnight, here are some of the things you could help with

- washing/ironing – altar linens, albs etc. (can be done from home)
- sewing – simple repairs to vestments (can be done from home)
- maintaining the votive candle stations
- prepping candles for use
- cleaning and refilling Holy Water stoups
- polishing brass
- caring for any indoor plants

You would be supported in these tasks and, depending on your availability, maybe even come together on a common day. Please see the flyer in the foyer.....

Tips for Reaching 000 in an Emergency



When you call 000 from a mobile phone, it will first try to connect using your mobile network. If your network isn't available, your phone will try to connect to another mobile network, if available. This is known as 'emergency camp-on'.

The emergency camp-on process can take time to connect to another network. Generally, there will be silence on the line while this happens. If your initial call doesn't connect within around five seconds, hang up and try again immediately. On subsequent attempts, stay on the line for up to 60 seconds to give your phone the best chance to connect.

More information: visit www.triplezero.gov.au.

Catholic Earthcare Season of Creation Gathering 2026 - final change to register!

This is a national online gathering to listen deeply, reflect faithfully, and act courageously in care for all creation. The program features inspiring keynote presentations exploring faith, ecology and justice; practical workshops addressing today's social and environmental challenges; and ideas and resources for action in local communities, parishes, schools and organisations.

When: 3-4 Sept, 10am-4.30pm, online

Cost: \$20 per person

To learn more and register, visit www.caritas.org.au/soc-gathering.

Diocesan Events

<https://tinyurl.com/cdmnevents>

Formation Films

Saturday 05 September, 11am to 1pm, Diocesan Resource Centre

Join us as we watch and discuss the 2018 release film "An Interview with God".

Learn More: <https://mn.catholic.org.au/event/formation-films/> or call Mary on 0409 033 449.



Called to Know More: What is the Mission of the Church Today?

Tuesday 22 September – 12pm to 1pm, Diocesan Resource Centre

What is the mission of the Church in today's world? How are we each called to participate in that mission through our workplaces, schools, parishes and communities? Join us for an engaging panel conversation exploring these questions with Brendon Mannyx, Outreach Partner for the Diocese; Jenifer Fernandes, Catholic Mission Diocesan Director and Adam Frost, Catholic Schools Religious Education Officer. Attendees are welcome to pre-submit questions in advance. Learn More: <https://tinyurl.com/CDMNCalledKnowMore>



Mission to Seafarers Centre

Donations welcome for our Seafarers Care Packs or, if you have the means, monetary donations can be made to the following:



BSB	062 784
Account Number:	1000 12583
Account Name:	The Apostleship of the Sea

St Carlo Acutis Major Relic Mission

As the Diocese journeys towards Eucharist28 with Pope Leo XIV, we are proud to be hosting the first-class relics of a millennial Saint – Carlo Acutis (September 8-14). During his young life, Carlo created the Eucharistic Miracle Exhibition, which will also accompany the tour. Church noticeboards show the schedule that covers the Reception of the Relic, Upper Hunter Encounter, Northern Region Encounter and the Newcastle City Basin Encounter. The pilgrimage has been drawing tens of thousands from across Australia and New Zealand these past months and we are looking forward to host.

Learn More: <https://tinyurl.com/CDMNCarloAcutis>



Hunter Men's Rosary Camino

Saturday 12 September from 10.30am



The starting point is Sacred Heart Cathedral, 841 Hunter St Newcastle West.

Option 1: Pilgrims will walk to the Immaculate Heart of Mary (Tighes Hill) and return to the Sacred Heart Cathedral.

Option 2: Pilgrims will walk to the Immaculate Heart of Mary (Tighes Hill), to the Sacred Heart Cathedral, then on to St Joseph's The Junction and return to Sacred Heart Cathedral.

Bring water and wear appropriate walking shoes.

Please register by 7 September, using the QR code below.

More information: Contact Jason C on 0499 854 928.



World Youth Day 2027



Bishop Michael Kennedy has announced the Diocesan pilgrimage to South Korea and Japan for young people aged 16-35 next year. World Youth Day with Pope Leo XIV will be an enriching experience of pilgrimage for young people which has a profound impact on their

relationship with Jesus, their prayer life, their lived mission and their relationships with others. Join us for the Reception of the Relic of WYD Patron Saint Carlo Acutis on September 8 and a WYD Launch Event featuring information about this exciting opportunity.

Learn More: <https://WYD27Launch.eventbrite.com.au>



St Aloysius Girls High School 60-year Reunion

Wednesday 30th September 2026



Looking for ex students from the class of 1963-1966. Lunch at Wests Mayfield from 12 noon. Purchase your lunch from the Bistro. It would be great to celebrate with as many old school mates as possible.

Respond to Angie on 0414449914 or angienphil2@gmail.com or Gail on the school Facebook page.

The Chuckle

I thought the dryer was shrinking my clothes. Turns out it was the refrigerator all along.



Our Catholic Schools

St Joseph's Primary School: Karen McGinlay (*Principal*)
Union Street, The Junction NSW 2291
(02) 4961 2827
www.merewether.catholic.edu.au

Holy Family Primary School: Shannon McGregor (*Principal*)
Pell Street, Merewether NSW 2291
(02) 4963 3009
www.merewetherbeach.catholic.edu.au

St Columban's Primary School: Penny Banister (*Principal*)
Church Street, Mayfield NSW 2304
(02) 4968 3315
www.mayfieldsc.catholic.edu.au

St Peter's Primary School: Dennis Nolan (*Principal*)
Dunbar St, Stockton NSW 2295
(02) 4928 1861
www.stockton.catholic.edu.au

St Francis Xavier's College: Greg Ptolemy (*Principal*)
Parkway Avenue, Hamilton NSW 2303
(02) 4961 2863
www.hamilton.catholic.edu.au

San Clemente High School: Emma South (*Principal*)
78 Havelock St, Mayfield NSW 2304
(02) 4014 7300
www.mayfieldsanc.catholic.edu.au

St Dominic's Catholic College: Rachel Jones (*Principal*)
76 Havelock St, Mayfield NSW 2304
(02) 4968 1295
www.mayfieldsd.catholic.edu.au

EUCHARIST 28
A moment to believe

Today's Liturgy of the Word



First Reading Jer 20:7-9

The word of the Lord God has meant derision for me.

Responsorial Psalm Ps 62:2-6. 8-9. R. v.2

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

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.)**

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 peak your praise. **(R.)**

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.)**

For you have been my help;

in the shadow of your wings I rejoice.

My soul clings to you;

your right hand holds me fast. **(R.)**

Second Reading Rom 12:1-2

May you present your bodies as a living sacrifice.

Gospel Acclamation See Eph 1:17-18

Alleluia, alleluia!

May the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ enlighten the eyes of our heart, that we might see how great is the hope to which we are called.

Alleluia!

Gospel Mt 16:21-27

Whoever wishes to come after me must deny himself.



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Next Week's Readings

23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A

Ezekiel 33:7-9

Romans 13:8-10

Matthew 18:15-20

Prayer from The Australian Catholic Bishops Conference Social Justice Statement "Living the Gospel in Times of Social Division"

You created every person in your image and call us to live as one human family.

In a world marked by division, fear and misunderstanding, fill our hearts with the self-giving love of Christ. Teach us to

see one another not as strangers or opponents, but as sisters and brothers, worthy of dignity, respect and compassion. Give us the courage to build bridges where there is distrust, to seek encounter where there is separation, and to work for justice with humility and mercy.

Help us to listen with open hearts, speak with kindness, and walk together in the way of peace. May your Holy Spirit guide us to welcome the stranger, stand beside those on the margins, reject all forms of hatred and racism, and become instruments of reconciliation in our communities.

Through the example of Saint Maximilian Kolbe and all the saints, strengthen us to live the Gospel through sacrifice, generosity and love, so that your light may shine through us and bring hope to our nation. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen



Safeguarding

The Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle has an abiding commitment to promote the safety, welfare and wellbeing 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: 02 4979 1390, or email childprotection@mn.catholic.org.au or visit www.officeofsafeguarding.org.au

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