

**Maitland Parishes of the
Chisholm Pastoral Region**

ST JOSEPH'S (Est 1835)
Cnr King St & New England Hwy,
EAST MAITLAND

ST JOHN'S CHAPEL (Est 1841)
Cathedral St, MAITLAND

SACRED HEART, New England Hwy,
CAMPBELL'S HILL

HOLY FAMILY, 11 John St, LARGS

ST COLUMBA'S, Cnr Prince & Church
Sts, PATERSON

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION (Est 1871)
Cnr George & James Sts, MORPETH

ST PATRICK'S (Est 1905)
55 New England Hwy, LOCHINVAR

OUR LADY OF LOURDES (Est 1947)
Cnr Anderson Dr & Delprat Ave,
BERESFIELD

ST PAUL'S (Est 1961)
10 Young St, RUTHERFORD

Ministers

All baptised members of the community

Ministry Team

Parish Priest: Fr Paul O'Neill

Asst Priest: Fr Camillus Nwahia
(Presbytery 4934 5783)

Weekend Supply:

Fr Maurie Cahill, Fr Lex Levey,
Fr Paul Berezniuk

**Co-ordinator, Spiritual care of sick & aged
in care or at home:** Sr Maureen Rigby OP

**Co-ordinator, Dying, Bereaved & Funeral
Ministry:** Irene Dixon 0428 220 997

Children's Ministry Deanery Co-ordinator
Jennie Nolan 0408 796 252

ACTiv8 Youth Co-ordinator
Bec Piefke 0422 500 429

Regional Office

Louise Gilchrist, Rita King,
Janine Sidoti, Sandra Buck

302-304 High St Maitland 2320
PO Box 215 Maitland 2320
Hrs: Tues - Fri 9.00am-4.30pm
(closed for lunch 12.30-1.30pm)

CLOSED MONDAY

Ph: 4933 8918 / Fax: 4934 1227
E: chisholm@mn.catholic.org.au



CHISHOLM CONNECTION

Our News from the Pews

Message from Fr Paul O'Neill

Volume 7, Issue 4

My sisters and brothers

In this Easter season we are celebrating the presence of the risen Lord among us. We have had wonderful Holy Week liturgies across the parishes of our region and we thank all who contributed to their preparation.

We have been blessed by the presence of Fr Richard Shortall sj in our region. Fr Shortall led the Holy Week ceremonies at St Paul's church Rutherford, and for the three weeks after Easter has been conducting "Praying in Everyday Life" at St Paul's for the parishioners of our region. Many have benefitted from attending this retreat which draws to a close next Thursday evening 4th May. We are very grateful to Fr Shortall and Teresa Brierley, Vice Chancellor of the Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle, for offering us this opportunity.

During the month of May, many of the children of our parishes will be receiving the Sacraments of Confirmation and Holy Communion when Bishop Bill visits us.

Also during May we will be beginning four Parish Cells of Evangelisation. It is very exciting that the vision of the Regional Pastoral Council to reach out and build our Christian Communities through these Parish Cell groups is beginning. It is our hope that these Cells of Evangelisation will grow in our parishes in the coming years. Let's pray that the Holy Spirit will inspire and assist us in spreading the good news of Christ.

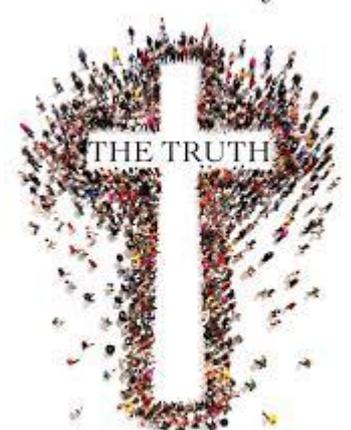
From Sunday night the 30th April till Thursday afternoon the 4th May, the Bishop, Priests and Deacons of our Diocese will be attending a Clergy Seminar at St Joseph's Conference and Retreat Centre, Kincumber. Over these days we will be reflecting together on important aspects of our pastoral ministries in the Diocese. Please keep us in your prayers. I am grateful to Fr Maurie Cahill for celebrating the weekday Masses while we are away and for Fr Des Harrigan who is on call if a priest is needed for a funeral during these days.

On Sunday 4th June Fr Camillus will be celebrating his 1st Ordination Anniversary as a priest. We congratulate him and we are very grateful for his presence and ministry among us.

Let's continue to support each other and work together in building up God's kingdom in our part of the world.

With love
Fr Paul

I am the Way



and the Life

JOHN 14:6

INSIDE YOU WILL FIND

1-11	Messages from Frs Paul; Bishop's Schedule; SOI dates; RCIA; 1st & 2nd Collections; Regional/Dio News; Chisholm Region Young People's Mass; SVdP.
12-15	May Mass Roster / Saints
16-18	ACTiv8
19-23	Parish News
24	Sponsors Advertisements

Bishop Bill's Schedule

DATE	TIME	EVENT
FRIDAY 19/5/17	9am	Visit St Aloysius Primary School - Chisholm
	6pm	Confirmation and First Holy Communion Mass with Fr Paul and Fr Camillus con-celebrating at St Joseph's – East Maitland
SATURDAY 20/5/17	10am-12pm	Meeting with Regional Pastoral Council, Regional Finance Committee, Regional Liturgy Team and Sacraments of Initiation Team at Therry Centre – East Maitland
	5pm	Confirmation and First Holy Communion Mass at St Joseph's – East Maitland
SUNDAY 21/5/17	7.15am	Confirmation and First Holy Communion Mass at Immaculate Conception - Morpeth
	8.30am	Confirmation and First Holy Communion Mass at St Joseph's – East Maitland
	6pm	Confirmation and First Holy Communion Mass at St Joseph's – East Maitland
FRIDAY 26/5/17	9am	Visit St Patrick's Primary School - Lochinvar
	10.30am	Anointing Mass at OPAL Rutherford
	12.30pm	Visit St Paul's Primary School - Rutherford
	6pm	Confirmation and First Holy Communion Mass with Fr Paul and Fr Camillus con-celebrating at St Paul's - Rutherford
SATURDAY 27/5/17	10am-12pm	20 minute interviews with any parishioner of the region who would like to have a talk with Bishop Bill - Parish Office
	6pm	Confirmation and First Holy Communion Mass at St Patrick's - Lochinvar
SUNDAY 28/5/17	8am	Confirmation and First Holy Communion Mass at St Paul's - Rutherford
	9.30am	Confirmation and First Holy Communion Mass at St Patrick's - Lochinvar
	6pm	Confirmation and First Holy Communion Mass at St Joseph's – East Maitland

Sacraments of Initiation Dates

Date	Time	Place
Fri 28/4/17	6.00pm	<i>OLOL Church, Beresfield</i>
Sat 29/4/17	5.00pm	<i>Vigil OLOL</i>
	6.30pm	<i>Vigil Sacred Heart Campbell's Hill</i>
Sun 30/4/17	8.00am	Holy Family Church Largs
	9.30am	St Columba's Paterson
Fri 19/5/17	6.00pm	<i>St Joseph's East Maitland</i>
Sat 20/5/17	5.00pm	<i>VIGIL - St Joseph's Church, East Maitland</i>
Sun 21/5/17	7.15am	<i>Immaculate Conception Morpeth</i>
	8.30am	<i>St Joseph's Church, East Maitland</i>
	6.00pm	<i>St Joseph's Church, East Maitland</i>
Fri 26/5/17	6.00pm	St Paul's Rutherford
Sat 27/5/17	6.00pm	St Patrick's Church Lochinvar
Sun 28/5/17	8.00am	<i>St Paul's Rutherford</i>
	9.30am	<i>St Patrick's Church, Lochinvar</i>
	6.00pm	<i>St Joseph's Church, East Maitland</i>

Pentecost Sunday Parish Masses of Thanksgiving: the Children and their families return to their Parish communities and all give thanks to God for the Sacraments.

Saturday/Sunday	3rd/4th June	At all Churches
-----------------	--------------	-----------------

COPYRIGHT ALERT!

The Diocese has advised us that our copyright company LicenSing has merged with OneLicense. This means that we have a different License number and also need to use different wording on our acknowledgments.

OneLicense is a worldwide music reproduction licensing service that provides access to the music of top Catholic and mainline Protestant publishers and composers. It provides its license holders with tools to report the songs they use in each of their liturgies and other celebrations and events each week.

Publishers and composers depend on accurate reporting and we trust that you will do everything in your power to report responsibly. We are required to report the usage of all titles used under the OneLicense.net license to ensure fair distribution of royalties to composers and authors. This only relates to the hymns which are reproduced in power point presentations OR hard copy format – if your community use hymnals only then there is no need to report.

If you are responsible for your community music please email louise.gilchrist@mn.catholic.org.au so we can ensure that your access to OneLicense is not hindered by this merger.



The 2016-2017 participants have continued “walking the journey” towards their full communion with the local church communities that they attend.

3 Catechumens, those who have not been baptised, being Richelle Kelly and Kristy Lee Padgett at the East Maitland Easter Vigil and Kellyanne Hiron, at Lochinvar on Easter Sunday, were officially initiated into the Catholic Church, receiving all three Sacraments of Christian Initiation: Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist. A fourth

Catechumen, April Bott, will receive her Sacraments of Initiation at East Maitland on Sunday April 30.

3 Candidates, someone who has been previously baptised in another Christian faith, were also welcomed / initiated over Easter. Terina Taylor at the East Maitland Vigil, Eva Frieze at the Rutherford Vigil, and Ashley Geelan at Largs on Easter Sunday made their profession of faith, were confirmed, and received the Eucharist for the first time. Another Candidate, Race Barstow, will make her profession of faith and receive her Sacraments at East Maitland on Sunday April 23.

Due to specific circumstances, 2 other Candidates, Andrew Johnstone (East Maitland) and Caroline Donohoe (Lochinvar) were initiated prior to Easter, but however, due to the “community spirit” in the group, still attend the weekly meetings when possible.

Although now initiated the RCIA Team will continue to meet with these newly named Neophytes, i.e.: those newly converted to a belief or a novice. Topics to be discussed include: Chisholm Region Ministries; Marriage and Relationships Education; Sacraments of Vocation – Marriage, Holy Orders.

On Friday 12th May a Mass for the NEOPHYTES at St Joseph’s EAST MAITLAND will be followed by a BBQ, all are invited to attend. This will be another opportunity for Parishioners not only from those Mass Centres involved, but for everyone across our Region to come and share their faith experiences in this Community get-together.

The members of the Chisholm RCIA team will be there and will be more than happy to talk about the benefits to their own faith development through being part of the RCIA group or about what actually is the “process” should anyone know someone considering becoming a Catholic.

If you wish to contact the RCIA Team please call the Chisholm Office on 4933 8918.



*Tarina,
Kristy Lee
& Richelle*

First and Second Collections - WHAT'S THE DIFFERENCE?

Each weekend at Mass the collections take place in our parish, normally the 1st collection is immediately after of the Prayers of the Faithful. The 2nd collection timing may vary in parishes and could be immediately following the 1st collection or after communion.

THE FIRST COLLECTION provides, in the first place, for the priests of the Region: their monthly stipend, household food expenses, cooking and cleaning expenses. Funds surplus to the local priest's needs is forwarded to a central fund which provides for the health care of priests and for the care and upkeep of retired priests and the Bishop. Surplus funds do not stay in your parish.

THE SECOND COLLECTION provides the income for all the running expenses of your parish - staff employment, insurance, maintenance, maintaining and operating the Regional Office, liturgical supplies, waste collection, and most importantly – parish and regional ministries and services eg the Funeral Ministry, Sacramental Programme, Surplus funds stay in your parish and invested to meet the future needs of your Parish.

WAYS TO CONTRIBUTE

First Collection: Currently there is only one way to contribute to this collection and this is via your weekly cash contribution on the First Collection.

Second Collection: There are several ways that you can contribute to this collection:

1. **Cash** donations on the Second Collection
2. **Weekly Envelopes** (known as the planned giving scheme) which are placed in the Second Collection each weekend during Mass.
3. **Periodical Contributions** in which a reminder letter can be sent to you by the Parish Office on a quarterly, half-yearly or yearly basis should you prefer to make a contribution according to these time periods. Credit card facilities are available should you wish to use them with this option (the periodical reminder letter contains information which enables you to donate direct via the Catholic Development Fund or you can contribute by personal cheque or cash
4. **Monthly automated contribution** via your Credit Card or direct deposit. The Catholic Development fund can make a charge to your nominated credit card or bank account on a monthly basis according to a signed authority, offering a 'set and forget' option for those who would like to set up a regular system for their contributions. Of course you can withdraw your authorisation for these contributions at any time.

Tax Receipts are available for some parishes if part of the planned giving is used for charitable works. This does change from year to year so we ask that if you wish to claim a tax deduction for part of your planned giving please complete the form attached (or some are available at the back of the porch) and return it to the parish office prior to 30th June 2017. After **this date tax receipt data will be processed and I will not be able to supply a tax receipt so please ensure that you complete the form. You MUST complete a separate form every year.**

Only request a Tax Receipt if you intend to claim a tax deduction for part of your planned giving contribution alternatively I am able to supply a **Summary of Contribution**

I know the end of financial year seems a long way off but it would be greatly appreciated if the forms could be submitted as soon as possible

School Building Fund Levy Rebate: The Diocese has a policy that enables parents of children who attend our Catholic Schools, who contribute to their parish planned giving program, to obtain a partial or full exemption from paying the Diocesan Family School Building Levy (DFSBL) at their children's school. To obtain this rebate please contact the Parish Office.

Please ensure that you only claim the one type of benefit; either a Building Fund levy rebate OR a Tax Receipt.

Becoming a planned giver: If you wish to apply for Weekly Envelopes, set up a periodical contribution OR have a monthly contributions please contact the parish office or complete the relative section on the attached form.

If you have any questions relating to this notice please don't hesitate to contact Louise Gilchrist on 49338918.

Planned Giving

PLANNED GIVING DETAIL UPDATE & TAX REQUEST 2017

DATA UPDATE

Parish: _____ Planned Giving No: _____

Family contact name: _____

Contact (email or phone) _____

Address: _____

Other family members living at this address: _____

TAX RECEIPT REQUEST:

I would like to receive a Planned Giving Tax Receipt for 2016/2017

Family member who will be receiving the receipt _____

Requests received after 30th June 2017 will lead to the parishioner not receiving the requested tax deduction.

NEW MEMBER:

I wish to receive a set of Planned giving envelopes

I would like to pay electronically

This form can be emailed, mailed or put onto the second collection plate

Please don't hesitate to contact Louise Gilchrist at the regional office on 4933 8918
or louise.gilchrist@mn.catholic.org.au

Office Use:

Address updated : Tax New member: P/G No BY:

What's Happening in the Chisholm Region/Diocese

BAPTISM PROCESS: PLEASE NOTE anyone wishing to have their child/children baptised within our region is required to attend a Baptism preparation session. Completed Baptism registration forms and donation will be collected on this night. †Parents are urged to attend the Mass as a family.

NEXT PREPARATION SESSIONS:

Sunday 7th May 2017 (After Youth Mass)

Sunday 4th June 2017 (After Youth Mass)

†**BAPTISMS:** All enquiries for baptisms are to be lodged with the Regional Office; this includes private baptisms in our region.

Chisholm Connection

Deadline & Distribution Dates 2016

ISSUE	EDITORIAL DEADLINE	DISTRIBUTION DATE
MAY	19th May	27th/28th May

For enquiries please contact 4933 8918/email chisholm@mn.catholic.org.au
(Please be aware these dates could change)

THANK YOU to everyone who contributed to the Chisholm Connection this month, it was great to see and read so many articles. PLEASE KEEP THIS UP!

Faith Stories; Parish News; Social Events; Social Justice issues; Volunteers/students visiting nursing homes; Historical News; Photos; More fun - jokes, poetry, quizzes, competitions, recipes etc. Reviews of relevant books and movies. Even stories of loved ones recently deceased (with permission). Letters Page

If anyone in your parish can contribute any of the above, and, if you want to see/read anything else in the Chisholm Connection please let the office know!
YOUR VIEWS ARE IMPORTANT TO US!

†**CHISHOLM CONNECTION IS ALSO AVAILABLE THROUGH OUR DIOCESAN WEBSITE:** it is linked to the "Chisholm Pastoral Region" page <http://www.mn.catholic.org.au/parishes-priests/pastoral-regions/chisholm>. If you wish to be placed on an EMAIL distribution list please contact the office.

†**DONATIONS/PAYMENTS ONLINE!** To make donations/payments to your parish electronically follow this link <http://mn.catholic.org.au/parishes-priests/parish-payments>

†**PLANNED GIVING!** Parishes can't survive without the generous support of parishioners either through donating to the parish electronically or the traditional second collection plate by planned giving envelope or loose collections or by giving of their time and talents. Fr Paul greatly appreciates everyone who supports their parish in any way. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact Louise Gilchrist at the regional office.

†**SCHOOL BUILDING FUND LEVY REBATE** Parents of children who attend a Catholic School and contribute to their parish planned giving program may be able to obtain a partial or full exemption from paying the Diocesan Family School Building Levy (DFSBL) at their children's school. Please ensure that you only claim the one type of benefit; either a Building Fund levy rebate OR a Tax Receipt. It is important to clarify the following matters regarding this practice:-

- The payment of the DFSBL is not eligible to be claimed as a tax deduction, as the levy is compulsory and not a voluntary contribution
- A percentage of the parent's contribution to the parish's planned giving program can be claimed as a tax deduction if no material advantage is received by the parents
- Material benefits to the parents would include a partial or full exemption from paying the DFSBL

†Therefore, if parents choose to contribute to their parish planned giving program, they will continue to receive an exemption from paying the DFSBL. However, those parents receiving the exemption are unable to claim a tax deduction for their contributions to the parish. If you would like to claim this exemption please contact Louise Gilchrist from the parish office. Zimmerman Services the child protection, healing and support agency of the Catholic Diocese of Maitland – Newcastle can be contacted on 4979 1390.

†Anyone new to Children's Ministry is required to have a Working with Children Check Number. Please follow this link to obtain your number, then contact the parish office 4933 8918 to complete our parish forms. <https://www.kidsguardian.nsw.gov.au/working-with-children/working-with-children-check>



Useful Links: Here are some useful links and resources that may be new to you. (Ctrl + click on link)

[Diocesan Information Directory](#) - important contact information for the various agencies and groups.

[Liturgy page](#) – regularly updated

[Spirituality & Faith page](#) – regularly updated

[mnnews.today](#) – Diocesan News Service

[Subscribe to Diocesan Update eNewsletter](#)

[Aurora Magazine articles online](#)

[Full Diocesan Calendar](#) and [Community Noticeboard](#)

What's Happening in the Chisholm Region/Diocese

Ordinate Mass offered at Mayfield

All Catholics are invited to "come and see" *Divine Worship* - the third and newest variant of the Roman Rite - which is offered at 11:30am at St Columban's, Mayfield on the 2nd and 4th Sunday of every month. The Ordinate of Our Lady of the Southern Cross is a non-geographical diocese created by Pope Benedict XVI as a structure for Anglicans to become fully Catholic, whilst bringing many of their traditions as a "treasure to be shared" with the broader Catholic Church. Father Stephen Hill, assistant Priest at Mayfield, Mayfield West and Stockton, is a priest of the Ordinate presently working in our diocese.

Opportunity for 3-6 Year Olds

Do you have a 3-6 year old child in your life? Do you want to help them to get to know and love God in a specially prepared, hands-on environment?



Catechesis of the Good Shepherd is starting in April – just before Easter. We are seeking enrolments and expressions of interest from parents of children aged 3-6.

Our sessions last for 1.5 hours, once a week during term time. Days and times to be confirmed, depending on the level of interest.

We are located in Beresfield, next to the church. Each session includes a presentation, time for the children to work independently and ends with communal prayer which the parents/guardians are welcome to join us in.

For more information please call Siubhan on 0432 477 181 or email OLOL.Atrium@gmail.com. I would be more than happy to tell you more about the program and to show you our Atrium space.

We could not have started this work without the generous support of many members of our Chisholm parishes. Thank you to everyone who has made and/or donated materials for the children to work with.

† **Legion of Mary "Our Lady of Perpetual Succour"** meet 10.30am Tuesdays, 79 Banks St, East Maitland. Contact 4905 2144 for more information.

† **Holy Hour of Prayer and Exposition** every Monday at 12noon, **ALSO, A Spiritual Library** has been set up in the prayer room at St Joseph's church, East Maitland. Any enquires: Marion Riley 4934 1949.

† **PIETY STALL:** open every weekend after Mass at St Joseph's church, East Maitland. Need casual help when I am away. If you can help please contact me Marion Riley 4934 1949/0412 811 759.

† **SPIRITUAL LIBRARY:** Many interesting books available for loan; kept in the prayer room at the side of St Joseph's church East Maitland. Open all the time.

† **PIETY STALL: OLOL BERESFIELD:** Lovely gifts to choose from for our children who will be celebrating Sacraments of Initiation - on display in the foyer.

† **ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY.** People seeking more information about the Society and what membership involves, are invited to contact Michael Healy on 4933 1302 or Greg Coates on 4934 1382. The Society offers an opportunity to respond to Christ's call "to feed the hungry, clothe the naked and visit those who are sick or in prison."

† **ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT:** First Friday of each month from after 7.00am Mass at till 9.00am Mass Saturday at St Joseph's East Maitland. Next date **Friday 5th May, 2017.**

MINISTRY OF ADULT FAITH FORMATION Christian Ministry: Integrity in the service of the Church

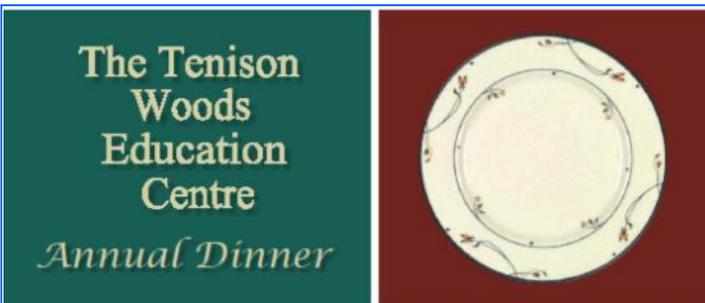
Is a formation process developed from the Church's duty of care for those who work and volunteer in its name. It is designed for lay people in a parish or diocesan ministry and is offered free of charge. Eight units run over **four Saturdays in May 2017** at Newcastle West. New attendees and those wanting to complete this certificate course can register on P 4979 1134 or E.Sharon.Murphy@mn.catholic.org.au.

† **BIGGEST MORNING CUP OF TEA for the Cancer Appeal** will be held at the next Anointing Mass at East Maitland - **TUESDAY 16th MAY.**



† You are invited to **Mums' Night Out** on Tuesday 16th May from 5.30pm at the Blackbutt Hotel, 80 Orchardtown Road, New Lambton. Come and enjoy a great meal and good company and listen to psychologist Tanya Russell share some insights into how mums can build self-care and mindfulness into their daily lives. Mums' Night Out is an initiative of the **Tenison Woods Education Centre** and is an evening for mums, foster mums and grandmothers to have a break and share some insights, a meal and conversation. Ph: 4979 1134.

What's Happening in the Chisholm Region/Diocese

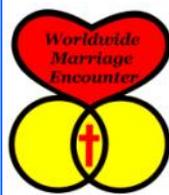


Thursday 11 May 2017
The Therry Centre
New England Highway, East Maitland
6.30pm for 7.00pm



Professor Tim Flannery
Laudato Si' - Responsibility and climate
 Tim Flannery is one of the world's most prominent environmentalists and was named Australian of the Year in 2007. He founded, and is now chief councillor, of the Australian Climate Council. Tim has advised governments both in Australia and overseas and was appointed Australia's first Climate Commissioner in 2011. He is currently a professor at Melbourne University Sustainability Institute. Professor Flannery has published over 140 peer-reviewed scientific papers and has named 25 living and 50 fossil mammal species. He has over 20 years' experience as an explorer and biologist, made numerous documentaries and has written 32 books. His latest book, *Atmosphere of Hope. Searching for solutions to the climate crisis*, deals with carbon negative technologies.

Cost \$65 per person includes canapés, drinks, main meal & dessert
 Bookings by 4 May to P 4979 1134 E Sharon.Murphy@mn.catholic.org.au
 Tables of 10 & individual bookings welcome. Please pay upon confirmation of booking.
 Payment at <http://mn.catholic.org.au/parishes-priests/parish-payments>
 1. Enter your details & payment amount
 2. IGNORE the 'Please Select your Parish' drop-down field
 3. Select 'Other Payment' & enter 'TWEC Dinner' to specify reason
 4. Click 'Make Payment' button for secure payment
 Raffle Prizes - ticket sales & prize draw available during dinner



Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend – relationship enrichment for married couples **19-21 May** at Mt Carmel Retreat Centre, Varroville, NSW. Bookings online at www.wwme.org.au or Bill and Ardell Sharpe on 02 4283 3435 or wsharpe@bigpond.net.au

✠ You are INVITED to the **Tri-Diocesan Covenant Service of Worship, TUESDAY 23rd May 7.45pm** at **St Luke's Anglican Church, Metcalfe St, Wallsend**. Jointly led by Bishop Bill Wright, Bishop Peter Stuart & Bishop Peter Comensoli. Everyone Welcome!

MOVIE NIGHT ON THE SAINTS: we hope to see you on **Saturday, 20th May, 2017** at 7.00pm in the Caroline Chisholm Rooms (adjacent to St. Joseph's Primary School Admin) 57 King Street, East Maitland.

RISEN – WITNESS THE MANHUNT THAT CHANGED THE COURSE OF HUMAN HISTORY – "The best film about the life of Jesus since the Passion of the Christ". (Patrick Novecosky Editor-in-Chief Legatus Magazine); – "An Uplifting Masterpiece!" (Dave Morales/Fox-TV Houston); – "EPIC" (Mike Androsky/Entertainers). Risen is the epic Biblical story of the Resurrection, as told

through the eyes of a non-believer, Clavius (Joseph Fiennes), a powerful Roman military tribune, and his aide Lucius (Tom Felton), are tasked with solving the mystery of what happened to Jesus (Cliff Curtis) in the weeks following the crucifixion, in order to disprove the rumours of a risen Messiah and prevent an uprising in Jerusalem.



Risen accomplishes something quite remarkable: It tells the familiar, timeless story of Jesus' death and resurrection from a fresh vantage point. The result is a movie that invites the viewer to look at Our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ, not from an insider's perspective, but from an outsider's; through the eyes of someone with no reason to believe and every reason to be sceptical about the mind-blowing miracles that have just been performed.

A powerful movie that hearkens back to the early times of Christianity. There is a reality about the film that should awaken the spirit in those many who have been shaken in their beliefs. The opposite forces that wish to strangle out the last bit of grace handed to God's faithful are legion but one only needs to put on the full armour of God in order to do battle with evil.

Books and pious objects for sale. Refreshments provided. Bring a friend and enjoy a great night out! Enquiries: Judy Chlebowicz 49 366349

PRAYING IN EVERYDAY LIFE RETREAT - St Paul's Parish, 10 Young St, Rutherford, to the 4th May 2017. Conducted by Fr Richard Shortall, SJ, Missionary of Mercy, Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle.

DAILY - 9.30am Mass (followed by a cuppa and morning teaching). During each day there will be the opportunity for individual conversation in the Church with Fr Shortall at the times given on his appointment whiteboard. ***7.00pm** - Repeat of the morning session.

Farewell Fr Shortall: After the 7pm teaching session on **Thursday 4th May**, you are all welcome to attend a "POT LUCK" dinner in the parish hall. **Everyone in our region is welcome! FR SHORTALL: 448 292 523 EMAIL: MOM@MN.CATHOLIC.ORG.AU**



Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion

✠ **MINISTERS for HOLY COMMUNION to the HOUSEBOUND:** Please note there will be a meeting for all ministers to attend on **Thursday 25th May at 5.00pm in the Therry Centre Foyer, East Maitland.**

What's Happening in the Chisholm Region/Diocese

† **Family Faith Forum** will be held on Saturday 3rd June at 9.30am at Toohey Room, 841 Hunter, St, Newcastle. Faith formation is often achieved through gently accompanying another on his/her journey. In this forum, we shall examine the nature of accompaniment as experienced through sacraments of initiation, school years and Sunday Mass. Register 4979 1328 by 27th May.

† The Catholic Bishops of Australia invite Catholics across the country to join in celebrating a Year of Youth from the beginning of Advent 2017 to the end of 2018. The theme is, '*Open New Horizons for Spreading Joy: Young People, Faith and Vocational Discernment*'. Information is available at, www.youth.catholic.org.au

† The 3rd Australian Catholic Youth Festival will be hosted by the Archdiocese of Sydney from 7-9 December 2017. For young people in year 9 (2017) to 25 years who would like to be a part of the Maitland-Newcastle contingent. Those over the age of 25 are encouraged to register as group leaders. Register your interest now at www.mn.catholic.org.au/acyf. For more information, contact us at youth.festival@mn.catholic.org.au or www.facebook.com/mncatholicyouth

TEACHERS OF RELIGION IN STATE SCHOOLS. Volunteers are urgently required to take the following religion classes on **Tuesdays** in term time.

Infants Class at Metford school from 12.30-1pm
Primary Class at Tenambit school from 2.25-2.55 pm
Children will each have a work book, and teacher support will be provided.

If you are unavailable on a particular Tuesday, arrangements will be made to cover the class. If there are no volunteers, it will be the first time in more than 30 years that Catholic scripture has not been available for children in these classes. If you can assist please phone Jan Healy on 49331302.

SAVE THE DATE: A Day of Reflection for all women of the diocese will be held on Saturday, 15th July at St Joseph's College, Lochinvar.

More information will be in Parish Bulletins.

CHISHOLM REGION KIDS MASS

Come and
join in!



6pm Sunday 7TH MAY
at St Joseph's East Maitland

Read, Sing, Bring your instrument and come for a practice from 5pm
– More info? Text- 0414890813

DISCLAIMER: Unless otherwise stated, the advertisements placed in this Newsletter are placed by independent third parties who have no legal relationship with the Diocese. The activities or services of the advertisers are not supervised or controlled in any way by the Diocese. The Diocese is not in a position to endorse the advertisers or the services provided and makes no representation about those matters. Accordingly, the Diocese cannot accept any responsibility for the advertisers or the activities or services that are the subject of these advertisements.

Chisholm Region Young People's Mass

CHURCH

DRUMKIT



– Eyesore? or Tool of Evangelization?

Psalm 150:1-6

Praise the Lord! Praise God in his sanctuary; praise him in his mighty heavens! Praise him for his mighty deeds; praise him according to his excellent greatness! Praise him with trumpet sound; praise him with lute and harp! Praise him with tambourine and dance; praise him with strings and pipe! Praise him with sounding cymbals; praise him with loud clashing cymbals! ...

There has been some debate and criticism of late about the presence of the drum kit in the East Maitland Church. The use of drums in church music is not new. Liturgical celebrations that have been organised and shared by young people have always involved the instruments that young people can play and enjoy. The problem has occurred because these celebrations, organised and shared by young people have become so frequent in the church that it has become inarguably practical to leave the drums in place. O happy problem!

Added to the success of the weekly Chisholm Region Young People's Mass on Sunday night (6pm), there is a well-attended weekday Youth Mass each Tuesday night of Term (7pm), and regular School Masses/liturgies. Numbers of young attendees are rising with average numbers in the 300's on the weekend, and 40's through the week.

Though it may seem strange to those of us who are older, the actual presence of the drum kit and certainly its use, has proved to be more than just attractive to children and young people. It has become in a manner of speaking a tool of evangelization.

Whether we want to recognise the fact or not, our regular liturgical celebrations of weekend Mass hold little appeal to the greater population of young Catholics. Those who do not have an inherent faith in the presence of Jesus, both in the Blessed Sacrament, and in the people gathered as His Church, struggle to see any relevance in the Liturgy, and unfortunately do not feel welcome at our gatherings. The traditional structures and practices that we older Catholics know and love are foreign and dismissive to non-practicing or new Catholics. Old hymns, organ music, even our familiar pious reverence can place a barrier between the treasure that we have in our Eucharistic celebration, and those who would come anew to know it if they only could.

At the Young People's Mass the Liturgical team works at providing new music and fresh ways of celebrating together at Mass so that the miracle that we have in the Sacrament of Mass is not lost on a generation who are already tuned out to traditional ways of worship. There is an effort to constantly bring Jesus to the congregation in a way that is relevant to them and their lives. The reasons that the new generation has tuned out are too numerous to guess at but just living in today's world is enough force many to equate organ music to horror movies, our precious traditions to archaic irrelevant practices, our solemn reverence to grumpy intolerance. This is tragic but undeniable.

The style of Christian worship music used by the Young people's Mass team, while certainly not mainstream secular, is much closer to the music that this new generation can relate to.

Which brings us back to the drum kit...

Just its presence in the church is a sign of a young worshiping community. Our drum kit gets used by many young drummers, at several Masses each week. The addition of the drums to the music at Mass never fails to add a youthfulness, and vibrancy that is attractive to all young generations. With the addition of the Bass our musicians are able to provide music of a calibre that would be welcomed wherever young people gather to sing and worship. But even when it is not used, at those gatherings where a more staid traditional ceremony is chosen the drum kit remains a silent witness that our church welcomes young people and their preferred style of music.

Chisholm Region Young People's Mass

To cover the drum kit may ease the mind or eye of those older people who do not like its presence in the church, but realistically these people will be part of our community for better or for worse. They come to Mass to fulfil their obligation and they are established members of the community.

To leave the drum kit un-covered is a method of outreach to the many young Catholic's who, while not regularly practicing, find themselves in our church, at a Baptism, wedding or seasonal celebration. To these people the drum kit is a recognisable and attractive sign of the existence of a young congregation, even if those young people are not present at that moment.

To our younger practicing Catholics, that precious group whom we all support wholeheartedly, the cover on the drum kit can appear dismissive; - like a rejection. That's the last message that any of us want to transmit to our kids, teens and young families. In this light is there any real reason to resent the presence of the drum kit? Isn't it worth trying to cope with this new object in our church building in the hope that we may also enjoy growth in the presence of more young people in our church community? And when we see them let's offer them a welcoming word and a friendly smile too.



Vinnies Northern Rivers Flood Appeal In light of the current devastating floods in NSW, Vinnies has launched its Northern Rivers Flood Appeal to support people affected by this tragic and heartbreaking natural disaster. At this time, financial donations are the most effective way for Vinnies to quickly provide assistance to those who need it most. Cheques made payable to - Vinnies Northern Rivers Flood Appeal, can be posted to - St Vincent de Paul Society, PO Box 19, Petersham, NSW. 2049. To donate a financial gift by phone, please call - 131812. Thank you for your generous assistance.

SVdP: VINNIES is looking for female/male volunteers of all ages (15+) to help out in our shops in the Maitland-Newcastle Central Council. Volunteers will gain experience in all areas of working in a retail environment. Volunteering provides the opportunity to learn valuable skills whilst giving back to your community. For further information or to register your interest, please P (02) 4967 6277 or email maitland.newcastle@vinnies.org.au.

MUSIC TUITION

Guitar Bass Piano & Singing Tuition

Studios located in Largs with experienced and qualified teachers with over 25 years experience.

ENQUIRIES: Guitar/Bass call on 0419642096 or email ericloimusic@bigpond.com

Piano/Singing call Jo on 0419025718 or email jo.loi2320@gmail.com



Chisholm Region Calendar

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
1 May	2	3	4
Clergy Conference			
9:30am Mass (Ruth.) 12:00pm Holy Hour of Prayer & Exposition (EM) 6:00pm Jr. Youth Group (Loch.) 7:00pm Retreat Talk (Rutherford) 7:30pm LOW (Lochinvar)	9:30am Mass (Ruth.) 5:30pm Junior Youth Group (Therry Centre) 7:00pm Retreat Talk (Rutherford) 7:00pm Youth Mass (EM)	9:30am Mass (Ruth.) 5:30pm Junior Youth Group (Largs) 7:00pm Prayer Group (see EM notice) 7:00pm Retreat Talk (Rutherford) 7:00pm Youth Mass (Largs)	7:00am Mass (EM) 9:30am Mass (Ruth.) 10:00am Cenacle (see EM notice) 7:00pm Retreat Talk & Pot Luck Dinner (Ruth.)
8	9	10	11
12:00pm Holy Hour of Prayer & Exposition (EM) 6:00pm Jr. Youth Group (Loch.) 7:30pm LOW (Lochinvar)	9:30am St Joseph's School Mass (EM) 5:30pm Junior Youth Group (Therry Centre) 7:00pm Parish Team Meeting (OLOL Hall) 7:00pm Youth Mass (EM)	10:00am Anoint Mass (OPAL N.H. (Anambah Rd)) 5:30pm Junior Youth Group (Largs) 7:00pm Youth Mass (Largs) 7:30pm Cenacle (see EM notice)	7:00am Mass (EM) 10:00am Cenacle (see EM notice) 10:00am St John's School Mass (Maitland)
15	16	17	18
12:00pm Holy Hour of Prayer & Exposition (EM) 6:00pm Jr. Youth Group (Loch.) 7:30pm LOW (Lochinvar)	10:30am Anoint Mass/Biggest Morning Tea (EM - Therry Centre) 5:30pm Junior Youth Group (Therry Centre) 7:00pm Youth Mass (EM)	9:30am OLOL School Mass (Tarro) 5:30pm Junior Youth Group (Largs) 7:00pm Youth Mass (Largs) 7:30pm Cenacle (see EM notice)	7:00am Mass (EM) 10:00am Cenacle (see EM notice) 10:15am St Peter's School Mass (Maitland)
22	23	24	25
12:00pm Holy Hour of Prayer & Exposition (EM) 6:00pm Jr. Youth Group (Loch.) 7:30pm LOW (Lochinvar)	9:30am St Paul's School Mass (Ruth.) 5:30pm Junior Youth Group (Therry Centre) 7:00pm Youth Mass (EM)	10:00am Anoint. Mass (Benhome) 5:30pm Junior Youth Group (Largs) 7:00pm Youth Mass (Largs) 7:30pm Cenacle (see EM notice)	7:00am Mass (EM) 10:00am Cenacle (see EM notice) 10:15am St Mary's School Mass (Maitland) 5:00pm Regional Home Communion meeting (Therry Centre)
29 May	30	31	
12:00pm Holy Hour of Prayer & Exposition (EM) 6:00pm Jr. Youth Group (Loch.) 7:30pm LOW (Lochinvar)	5:30pm Junior Youth Group (Therry Centre) 7:00pm Youth Mass (EM)	5:30pm Junior Youth Group (Largs) 7:00pm Youth Mass (Largs)	

May 2017

Friday	Saturday	Sunday
5 7:00am Mass (EM) 8:00am Adoration (E/M 7am-Sat 9am) 9:30am Prayer of the Church (Beres. Church) 10:00am St Aloysius School Mass (Chisholm)	6 9:00am Mass + First Sat Devotions (EM) 2:30pm Cenacle (see EM notice) 5:00pm Mass (EM) 6:00pm Mass (Beresfield) 6:30pm Mass (C Hill)	7 7:15am Mass (Morpeth) 8:00am Mass (Rutherford) 8:20am Mass (Largs) 8:30am Mass (EM) 9:30am Mass (Lochinvar, Paterson) 11:00am Regional Baptisms (EM) 6:00pm Youth Mass (EM) 7:00pm Baptism Preparation (EM)
12 7:00am Mass (EM) 9:30am Prayer of the Church (Beres. Church) 11:00am Anoint Mass (Greenhills N.H.) 6:30pm Neophytes Mass (EM)	13 8:00am Mass/Reconciliation (EM) 2:30pm Cenacle (see EM notice) 5:00pm Mass (EM) 6:00pm Mass (Beresfield) 6:30pm Mass (C Hill)	14 7:15am Mass (Morpeth) 8:00am Mass (Rutherford) 8:20am Mass (Largs) 8:30am Mass (EM) 9:30am Mass (Lochinvar, Paterson) 11:00am Regional Baptisms (EM) 6:00pm Youth Mass (EM)
19 7:00am Mass (EM) 9:15am St Patrock's School Mass (Loch.) 9:30am Prayer of the Church (Beres. Church) 6:00pm Confirmation & Holy Comm. Mass (EM)	20 8:00am Mass (EM) 2:30pm Cenacle (see EM notice) 5:00pm Confirmation & Holy Comm. Mass (EM) 6:00pm Mass (Beresfield) 6:30pm Mass (C Hill) 7:00pm Saints Movie Night (See Regional Notice)	21 7:15am Confirmation & Holy Comm. Mass (Morpeth) 8:00am Mass (Rutherford) 8:20am Mass (Largs) 8:30am Confirmation & Holy Comm. Mass (EM) 9:30am Mass (Lochinvar, Paterson) 11:00am Regional Baptisms (EM) 6:00pm Confirmation & Holy Comm. Mass (EM)
26 7:00am Mass (EM) 9:30am Prayer of the Church (Beres. Church) 10:30am Anoint Mass (OPAL NH Broughton St Ruth.) 6:00pm Confirmation & Holy Comm. Mass (Ruth.)	27 8:00am Mass (EM) 2:30pm Cenacle (see EM notice) 5:00pm Mass (EM) 6:00pm Confirmation & Holy Comm. Mass (Loch.) 6:00pm Mass (Beresfield) 6:30pm Mass (C Hill)	28 7:15am Mass (Morpeth) 8:00am Confirmation & Holy Comm. Mass (Ruth.) 8:00am Polish Mass (LOL) 8:20am Mass (Largs) 8:30am Mass (EM) 9:30am Confirmation & Holy Comm. Mass (Loch.) 9:30am Mass (Paterson) 11:00am Regional Baptisms (EM) 6:00pm Youth Mass (EM)

Please note, all care and attention is taken to ensure that times, dates and places are correct at time of publication.

Saints and Feasts in May 2017

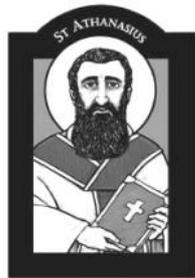
1st May. St Joseph the Worker.

This feast was instituted in 1955 by Pope Pius XII on a day when labour was celebrated in many countries. Jesus was the son of a carpenter and St Joseph presents a wonderful example of how even the most seemingly menial work can be sanctified. In doing this Pope Pius XII had thus imparted a special religious significance to May Day which had been completely secular, and one that had been used by various enemies of the Church to further their own designs. Now St Joseph who was the support and protector of Jesus and His Mother on earth is now honoured above all others as the personification of the dignity of human labour and the provident guardian of the workers families.



2nd May. St Athanasius, Bishop, Doctor of the Church (c.296-373), Patriarch of Alexandria.

Born of Christian parents and educated in Alexandria, he became deacon and secretary to his bishop Alexander, whom he accompanied to the council of Nicaea in 325ad. This first General Council of the Church condemned those who denied the divinity of Christ (these people were known as Arians), the Creed which was formulated there remains part of the Liturgy of the Church to this day. Athanasius vigorously defended Christian orthodoxy and refused all compromise with the Arians or semi-Arians. He became Bishop of his native city in 328 on the death of Alexander; Athanasius spent 17 of the 43 years of his episcopate in exile, misunderstanding, lawsuits and persecutions where his fate even though the papacy strongly supported him. He was a prolific author and is a doctor of the Church. He died peacefully in 373.



3rd May. Sts Philip and James.

St Philip was an apostle; nearly everything that we know about him is in the New Testament. He came from Bethsaida and was an early follower of Jesus. Philip was present at the feeding of the five thousand; it was he whom the Greeks spoke with when they wanted to meet Jesus. It was Philip's request of Jesus to "show us the Father" which elucidated from Jesus the response "He that sees me, sees the Father". He was present in the Upper room the night of Jesus' arrest, at the institution of the Eucharist; he was present again at the descent of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost. St James was also an apostle. He was a witness to the Risen Lord and is often called the first bishop of Jerusalem. He was stoned to death for his practice of the faith. He is the author of the epistle which bears his name.



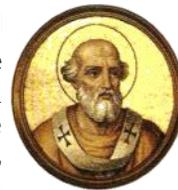
13th May. Our Lady of Fatima In the small Portuguese village of Fatima, the Blessed Virgin Mary is said to have appeared to three shepherd children. On six

occasions between May and October, 1917, Our Lady appeared to Lucia dos Santos and her two cousins, Francisco and Jacinta Marto. According to an account of the events given by Lucia, Mary entrusted the children with three secrets and encouraged them to do acts of penance and say the rosary every day. Thousands of people came to Fatima upon hearing of the visions, and on October 13, some 70,000 people reportedly witnessed a miraculous solar event. Fatima is now a major site of Marian pilgrimage.



18th May. St John I, Pope and Martyr.

John I was a sixth-century pope and martyr. Born in Tuscany, was elected Bishop of Rome (that is, pope) in 523. The Mediterranean world was, by this time, divided into the Eastern and Western Empires, each having a separate emperor. Christianity was also divided (though not in a geographic sense) by the Arian heresy, which denied the divinity of Christ. King Theodoric, the German chieftain who was in effect the Western emperor, was himself an Arian, though he was initially tolerant of the Catholics in his kingdom. Soon after John was elected pope, Justin, the Eastern emperor, began repressing the Arians in the East. Theodoric was upset by this, and he forced John and other religious leaders from the West to visit Justin in Constantinople (capital of the Eastern empire) for the purpose of lessening the restrictions placed upon the Arians. Little is known about the outcome of the negotiations Pope John conducted with Emperor Justin, but because the two leaders got along well together, a paranoid Theodoric assumed they were plotting against him. When John returned to Italy in 526, Theodoric had him arrested. Pope John died soon after he was imprisoned, perhaps as a result of the treatment he received, thus earning a martyr's crown. John was the first of twenty-three popes of that name, and the first one to be canonized a saint.



20th May. St Bernadine of Siena.

St Bernadine of Siena, was the son of the governor of Siena. He was orphaned at age six and was brought up by his aunt. He became a Franciscan friar at the age of twenty two and travelled all over Italy, preaching several sermons a day to large crowds. He is remembered for his devotion to the Holy Name of Jesus. At the end of his sermons he would hold up for veneration a plaque on which he wrote IHS - the Greek translation of 'Jesus'. Through his preaching, Bernadine was responsible for a vast number of conversions to Christianity. In 1437 he became the vicar-general of the Observant branch of the friars, during which time the number of Observants rose tenfold due to his popularity. After establishing theology schools for the friars, he returned to his favourite task of preaching at the age of sixty three, but died a year later on the 20th of May.



Saints and Feasts in May 2017

22nd May. St Rita of Cascia.

Augustinian Nun, also called Margarita. She was born in Roccaporena, near Spoleto, Italy in 1381, and expressed from an early age the desire to become a nun. Her elderly parents insisted that she be married at the age of twelve to a man described in accounts of her life as cruel and harsh. She spent eighteen extremely unhappy years, had two sons, and was finally widowed when her husband was killed in a brawl. Both sons also died, and Rita, still anxious to become a nun, tried unsuccessfully to enter the Augustinians in their convent at Cascia. She was refused because she was a widow and because of the requirement that all sisters should be virgins. Finally, in 1413, the order gave her entry, and she earned fame for her austerity, devotion to prayer, and charity. In the midst of chronic illnesses, she received visions and wounds on her forehead which resembled the crown of thorns. She died on 22nd May at Cascia, and many miracles were reported instantly. Canonised in 1900, she is honoured in Spain as La Santa de los Impossibles and elsewhere as a patron saint of hopeless causes.



24th May. Our Lady Help of Christians



is a The Feast Day of Our Lady Mary Help of Christians has been celebrated in Australia since 1844 but the history to this day, dates back to the start of the 1800's at a time when Napoleon Bonaparte had gaoled Pius VI (who also died in gaol). And later, when Pope Pius VII was elected he too was gaoled by Bonaparte, who kept him prisoner at Fontainebleau. The Holy Father vowed to God that if he were restored to the Roman See, he would

institute a special feast in honour of Mary. The military eventually forced Bonaparte to release the Pope and on 24 May, 1814 Pius VII returned in triumph to Rome. Twelve months later the Pope decreed that the Feast of Our Lady Mary Help of Christians be kept on 24 May. The infant church in Australia had a special reason for turning to Mary. No priests were sent to the colony in its early days and Mass was not allowed except for one brief year until 1820. It was largely the Rosary in those early days that kept the faith alive. The Australian Catholic community remained faithful to Mary and Australia was the first nation to choose her under the title, 'Mary Help of Christians' as principle Patroness. Australia also became the first country to have a cathedral dedicated in Our Lady, Mary's name. St Mary's Cathedral in Sydney was dedicated in her honour by the Irish pioneer priest, Fr John Therry who arrived in Sydney in 1820.

26th May. St Philip Neri, Priest. (21 July 1515 – 25 May 1595), known as the *Apostle of Rome*, was an Italian priest noted for founding a society of secular clergy called the "Congregation of the Oratory". St Philip Neri was born in Florence in 1515. His mother died when he was young and he was



educated at a Dominican convent. In 1533 he went to Rome and lived as a hermit for two years, then spent a further three years studying theology and philosophy. He gave up his studies and sold his books and encouraged his friends to join him in working for the sick and visiting the churches of Rome. St Philip was ordained a priest in 1551 and he spent many long hours hearing people's confessions. He founded the Congregation of the Oratory, which gave its name to the musical form 'Oratorio', which developed from their services. St Philip was known as a happy man, who enjoyed playing the occasional practical joke, but was also regarded as a living saint by those who knew him. St Philip Neri was beatified by Paul V in 1615, and canonized by Gregory XV in 1622. His memorial is celebrated on 26 May.

28th May. Ascension of the Lord Year A I AM



WITH YOU ALWAYS. When Christ ascended into heaven he did not abandon his disciples. Matthew's Gospel begins with the angel's words that Jesus will be called Emmanuel, which means God-is-with-us, and it ends with Jesus' promise: 'Know that I am with you always, yes, to the end of time.' In a special way Emmanuel is with us in this Eucharist for 'where two or three are gathered in my name, I shall be there with them.'

31st May. Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

Mary visits her relative Elizabeth; they are both pregnant. Mary is pregnant with Jesus and Elizabeth is pregnant with John the Baptist. Mary left Nazareth immediately after the Annunciation and went "into the hill country...into a city of Judah" (Luke 1:39) to attend her cousin Elizabeth. The journey was about 100 miles and Elizabeth was in the sixth month before Mary came (Luke 1:36), Mary stayed three months. Catholics believe that the purpose of this visit was to bring divine grace to both Elizabeth and her unborn child. Even though he was still in his mother's womb, John became aware of the presence of his Divine Saviour; he leapt for joy as he was cleansed from original sin and filled with divine grace. Elizabeth also responded and recognised the presence of Jesus. Thus Mary, now for the first time, exercised her function as mediatrix between God and man. It is at this point, that Mary proclaims the *Magnificat* (*My soul doth magnify the Lord*), Luke 1:46-55. The Visitation is the second Joyful Mystery of the Rosary.



And blessed is the fruit of your womb

ACTiv8 Chisholm

I feel incredibly privileged and blessed to be able to lead the many young people in our region who are choosing to participate in the many ministries we have to offer. Notability, altar serving, reading & singing at our youth mass each week where I get to be part of the pathways of these young people. I am so very thankful for the volunteers that come along each week, without them youth group would not be possible; it is a team effort and I couldn't run the youth groups without their help.



This became very obvious over the Easter period with our young people leading the stations of the cross; it brought alive the Easter story in a very powerful way. I'm looking forward to sharing fun and faith with our young people in term 2.

ACTIV8 CHISHOLM YOUTH MINISTRY 2017 Are you a young person or someone young at heart who could 'donate' some time each week to assist with our Youth Ministry Programs? We invite you to 'put your hand up' and say YES to engaging with our young people across the region. Even if you can offer us just two (2) hours a week we would love to hear from you. Long Term or Short Term; commitment timeframes are flexible and ALL offers to assist will be welcomed. If you are interested please contact the regional office 4933 8918.

Junior Youth Groups 2017

• Lochinvar • East Maitland • Largs



Lochinvar Junior Youth Group

every Monday Night
during school term

Where: St Patrick's Catholic School Hall
113 Gregory Rd, Lochinvar

Time: 6.00pm. - 8.00pm

Includes Liturgy of the Word
7.30pm - 8.00pm

East Maitland Junior Youth Group

every Tuesday Night
during school term

Where: Therry Centre,
Cnr New England Hwy &
King Street, East Maitland

Time: 5.30p.m. - 7.30pm

Includes MASS
7.00pm - 7.30pm

Largs Junior Youth Group

every Wednesday Night
during school term

Where: Largs Church Hall
Cnr John & Church Streets,
Largs

Time: 5.30p.m. - 7.30pm

Includes MASS
7.00pm - 7.30pm
A gold coin donation is appreciated.

Junior Youth Groups 2016

Our Junior Youth Groups are focused on providing a fun, positive community environment for Primary School kids in Years 2-6. Each youth group has yummy snacks, fun games, an educational input about the Catholic Faith, and a prayer experience. Junior Youth Groups run during the School Term and have a break in the holidays.

ALL children are welcome through the school year!

Where are all the young people! by Joanne Isaac, April 2017

Speaking on ABC radio earlier this year, young local Catholic, Hannah Williams, challenged the stereotype that young people no longer engage with their faith.

"Attending World Youth Day (WYD) in Poland really affirmed that the Catholic faith is not dying. It's alive and there are so many young people out there ready to carry that on," said Hannah.

Hannah is right. Youth ministry is alive and well in the Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle and it's going to take off in new and exciting ways with an estimated 15,000 young people set to attend the Australian Catholic Youth Festival (ACYF) in Sydney this December. A large contingent of 15-30 year-olds from our diocese will take part, kicking off the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference's Year of Youth in 2018, celebrating ten years since WYD was held in Sydney.

There is a number of long-established and thriving youth groups in various pastoral regions of the diocese. One of these is ACTiv8 Youth in the Chisholm region.

ACTiv8 is in its 12th year and brings together children from most of the primary schools in the Chisholm region, including some public schools, in three venues over three nights each week. A senior youth group for young adults meets twice a month and a youth Mass is held twice a week on Sunday and Tuesday nights. ACTiv8 is staffed by a youth ministry co-ordinator and young adult and teacher volunteers from around the region.

The youth ministry co-ordinator for ACTiv8, Bec Piefke, believes that making the youth group fun is vital.

"We offer a wide variety of activities to help build relationships and illustrate a particular gospel message. We start with an opening game as an icebreaker, do something fun and then, to help foster the children's spiritual growth and understanding, we hear the upcoming gospel, explain it in a language they understand and then have a discussion or activity. The fun things we've enjoyed over the past year have included water games, Zumba class, Melbourne Cup high tea, Christmas photo booth and chocolate fondue night," said Bec.

"World Youth Day and the Australian Catholic Youth Festival provide a great opportunity to shake up and wake up the Church. I think their greatest value is they show people the Church isn't a dying community, but one full of other young people on a similar journey, asking the same questions. They are not as alone as they imagined. They are a different experience and can be moving, energising and challenging while still reflecting our unique Catholic identity," said James.

The Diocesan Council for Ministry with Young People's vision is to provide opportunities for all young people to be inspired and empowered to "Be, Grow, Show" – to **be** people of faith, who **grow** in our faith and **show** our faith.

It would be wonderful if more young people were at Mass every Sunday, but just because they aren't doesn't mean that our youth are not engaged with their faith.

"Jesus met people where they were – he went into the houses of outcasts and sinners; people who didn't believe they had a place at the table. I see a lot of similarities with young people who do not feel welcome, or see relevance for themselves in Mass on Sunday. Of course we want people to participate fully in the Eucharist, but arguing that God wouldn't be going out and encountering them in their lives through their families, friends and schools seems counter to the Gospel to me," said James.

Last year, Bishop Bill spoke a number of times about young people and their faith and he encouraged parishes to "truly foster and encourage 'the young church'".

"It's a moving thing to see our young people realise that a life of faith is not just 'going to church', it's a life of faith. And the thing is, they're young enough to get it," said Bishop Bill.

People involved in youth ministry agree on how to connect young people to their life of faith.

"Youth will go where there's fun and love and they're accepted for who they are," said Cathy.

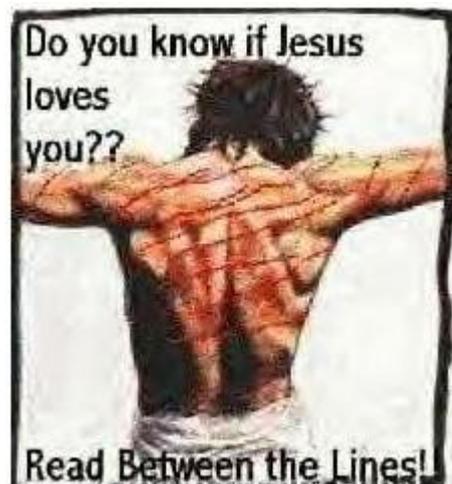
"To encourage young people to engage in their faith is to keep inviting them. We need to look at how we are welcoming and worshipping together," said Ellen.

"I hope that the people in our parishes are the ones who drive engagement with young people," said Bec.

As the diocese's vision for youth ministry states, 'we will be a Church...where young people understand that they are the Church of today and not just the Church of the future'.

Let's get behind the Church of today and support as many young people as possible to attend this year's ACYF in Sydney.

For more information visit [ACYF](#). If you would like to find out more about the many opportunities young people have to participate in the life of the Church in our diocese please contact the DCMYP on 4979 1111 or [email Youth Ministry](#).



Parish News - Lochinvar

Sale of Land on New England Highway/Station Lane. The Parishioners of St. Patrick's have agreed to the sale of the land and will be the sight of a Child Care Centre in the new future. We look forward to this development as the Lochinvar community continues to grow. This development also ties in with the St Patrick's Primary school expansion.

LOCHINVAR JUNIOR YOUTH GROUP - WEEKLY (during school term) on Mondays commencing from 6.00pm ending with LOW at 7.30pm.

THE MOLECULE MENTOR

Science tutoring and writing services

Tutoring for senior high school and university students in
Chemistry, Biology, Agriculture, Food
Chemistry/Technology

Bridging tuition for high school to university

Proofreading, editing and writing assistance for science
reports, academic papers and research theses

Dr Meredith Wilkes

PhD, BSc (Hons), Grad Cert (Education)
MRACI, CChem, ATA member
30 Queen St, Lorn, NSW, 2320
0414 220 422 / themoleculementor@gmail.com



Find us on 

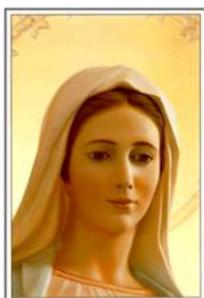


Parish News - St Joseph's East Maitland

APOSTOLATE OF PRAYER TO ST JOSEPH OF THE ETERNAL FAMILY held at the home of Pat McPherson, 65 Brisbane St, East Maitland the first Wednesday of each month at 7.00pm. Next date: 3rd May 2017. All welcome. Ph 4933 6635.

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT: First Friday of each month from after Mass at 7.00am till 9.00am Mass on Saturday at St Joseph's East Maitland. Next date: 5th May 2017. ALL WELCOME!

FIRST SATURDAY DEVOTIONS – 6th May 2017, St Joseph's Church, East Maitland & Therry Centre.



8.30am	Rosary & Confessions
9.00	Mass
9.30	Exposition/Benediction/Confessions
10.30	Morning Tea
11.00	Seminar
11.30	DVD (School Library)
12 Midday	Midday Prayer & Angelus
12.30pm	LUNCH
1.15	Cenacle Rosary & Divine Mercy Chaplet

Everyone is welcome to come along for all or any part of the devotion. For more information please call Judy 4936 6349 or Marion 4934 1949.

CENACLE & DIVINE MERCY CHAPLET PRAYER MEETINGS at the home of Pat McPherson, 65 Brisbane St, East Maitland, 7.30pm Wednesday evenings (*excl first Wed. of each month*); &10.00am Thursday mornings.

EAST MAITLAND CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE The NEXT ANOINTING MASS will also be the BIGGEST MORNING CUP of TEA for the CANCER APPEAL - 10.30am Tuesday 16th May, 2017. All welcome.

ST JOSEPH'S CRAFT GROUP: Meet every Monday - McAuley Room 9.30am to 1.00pm. For more information please contact 49331744 / 49335840 / 4933 4586; or just come along. ALL WELCOME!

SOCIAL GROUP - WIDOWS, SINGLES, DIVORCED - Next outing please contact Barbara 4934 3862.

PIETY STALL Open after Mass each Sat/Sun - Rosary beads, Statues, Holy medals & Cards; Christian gifts & Seasonal Celebration items; Children's Mass books etc.

THE LIBRARY Spiritual books available for loan to parishioners. In prayer/baby room to right of church.

ADORATION Mondays 12 midday for 1 hour in the church.

Junior Joey's Playgroup end of Term 1 and Term 2, 2017: Happy Easter to all! We pray that everyone has had a safe and blessed Easter break. The time has come for the older children to head back to school and that means that Junior Joey's Playgroup returns. This Term we are hoping to make the best of the warm weather, starting with a trip to Maitland Park play area. If unfortunately the weather isn't as kind as we hope, please contact Christine on 0407536452 or chrisdkam@gmail.com, for details on where to meet.



It's been great to meet many new families in Term 1 and are looking forward to catching up in Term 2. If you weren't able to join us in Term 1 please join us when you can in Term 2. New families are always welcome, including our lovely grandparents who join us each week. Below is our program for Term 2.

Week 2 – May 1 st 2017	On the move (Gross motor fun) at Maitland Park Play area.
Week 3 – May 8 th 2017	Mum's Week (Celebrating Mother's Day)
Week 4 – May 15 th 2017	One Special Lady (Mary – Our Lady)
Week 5 – May 22 nd 2017	Sensory Fun (Exploring our senses)
Week 6 – May 29 th 2017	Full of the Spirit (Celebrating Pentecost – the Church's Birthday)
Week 7 – June 5 th 2017	Three in One (Celebrating the Holy Trinity)
Week 8 – June 12 th 2017	QUEEN'S birthday Public Holiday – NO PLAYGROUP
Week 9 – June 19 th 2017	Excursion (TBA)
Week 10 – June 26 th June 2017	Nursery Rhymes (Dress as your favourite Nursery Rhyme character and share with us your favourite Nursery Rhyme)

Junior Joey's Playgroup is for children from *birth to 5 years*. So if you are looking for something to do with your child on a *Monday morning during school terms*, and an opportunity for you to make new friends, why not join us for Junior Joey's Playgroup Monday's 9:30-11:30am in the Therry Centre Foyer, East Maitland. Cost is \$3 and a piece of fruit per family per week. If you'd like any further details please contact Christine on 0407536452 or chrisdkam@gmail.com

Parish News - OLOL Beresfield

PASSION MASS SATURDAY 8TH APRIL: This year we had a very special Passion or Palm Sunday Mass at Our Lady of Lourdes Parish Church Beresfield. The children from Our Lady of Lourdes School Tarro, lead the parish in the singing of 'Cloaks and Branches' as they waved their palms in the entrance procession to commemorate the triumphant arrival of Christ in Jerusalem, just days before he was crucified. What a fantastic way to celebrate the beginning of Holy Week. It was great to have the children and their families join with us in this celebration.



MASS - OLOL SCHOOL TARRO: The children and teachers invite the community to join with them to celebrate Mass at OLOL School Tarro on Wednesday 3rd May at 9.30am.

PIETY SHOP: Our piety shop has a range of lovely items. These items are on display in the foyer.



CATECHESIS OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD:

We are very pleased to welcome this program to our parish. For more information or to get involved, please contact Siubhan Sadler at OLOL.Atrium@gmail.com or on 0432 477 181. Siubhan would be more than happy to tell you more about the program and to show you the Atrium.



PRAYER OF THE CHURCH: Each Friday morning we pray together the Prayer of the Church, often called the Liturgy of the Hours. This is the prayer of the whole People of God, and we invite you to join us on Fridays at 9.30am in the Church, as we offer our praise to God, and pray for the needs of our world.

POLISH MASS: The next Polish Mass to be celebrated at OLOL Church will be at 8.00am on the last Sunday of May (May 28th).

ROSARY: The parishioners of OLOL Beresfield pray The Rosary together at the Church each Saturday evening before Mass, commencing at 5.40pm. Everyone is invited to join us.

LADIES SOCIAL GROUP: The ladies group meets on an informal basis on the 4th Tuesday of each month from February to November at 10.00am in the Parish meeting room. The next informal get together will be on Tuesday 23rd May at 10.00am. There is also to be a Mother's Day lunch on Tuesday 2nd May at Hexham Bowling Club. Meeting time will be 11.30am for a 12.00 lunch. You are warmly invited to come along and join us. To book ring Irena on 49662902.

PARISH TEAM MEETING: The next Parish team meeting will be on the second Tuesday in May, Tuesday 9th May, in the Parish Meeting room, at 7.00pm. Everyone is invited to join us.

Parish News - Maitland / Largs / Paterson

SACRED HEART, CAMPBELL'S HILL CATHOLIC WEEKLY on sale before and after every Mass and only costs \$2.

LARGS: Weekly YOUTH Group Wednesdays 5.30pm ending with Mass at 7.00pm. (not in school holidays).

"The faith community of Holy Family Largs had the joy of welcoming Ashley Geelan into full communion with the Catholic Church on Sunday 16th March. The community celebrated with a cuppa after mass where Mrs Jan Will presented Ashley with a certificate on behalf of the Holy Family community. It is a blessing on the Holy Family community that Ashley chose to journey with us during the RCIA process."



Parish News - Rutherford

COLLEEN CANNY REPORTING FOR ST PAUL'S AT RUTHERFORD

There was great excitement, with the announcement of the Inaugural Magdalene Award. This award was instituted by the Catholic Women's Council. This year there were 25 nominees, all very worthy contenders. These women have been very active in our church community.

This year St Paul's was blessed to have three nominees: Margo Nancarrow, Gai Fishlock and Deidre Watson.

Margo was announced the recipient of the award which was presented by Bishop Bill. Margo just recently returned to St Paul's parish originally from Nelson Bay. Margo has been involved with Special Religious Education, Liturgy, Catholic Women's League, Catholic Bishops Life Council, Parents & Friends, and Diocesan Pastoral Council.

Gai Fishlock has devoted and committed to building a strong relationship between the school and the Parish, organising achievable projects and activities; is a member of St Vincent de Paul and is the Conference Spiritual Leader. She is also involved in home visitation and emergency calls. Gai also contributes to St Paul's School with Mini Vinnies, attending meetings with the School Principal and their spiritual leaders. It doesn't stop there. Gai is also involved with the Winter and Christmas appeals, Nursing Home visits which involves the students.

Deidre is involved in organising the parish music to fit in with the readings, and is the Cantor. She also contributes to the World Day of Prayer; is an Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion visiting parishioners who can no longer attend Mass; and visiting Nursing Homes. Deidre has been doing these wonderful deeds for many years.

How fortunate is our parish to have these hard-working women, enriching our parish community!

GABBIE FISHLOCK REPORTING



2017 St Paul's Primary School Mini Vinnies Activities: On Friday 24th March a small group of Mini Vinnies travelled to Opal Nursing Home in Broughton Street Rutherford. The purpose of this visit was to attend the anointing mass that was celebrated by Fr Camillus Nwahia, assisted by June Harvey. Not only was this the Mini Vinnies first experience of a healing mass but also attending mass in a nursing home. There were approximately eight residents seated to attend Mass. Fr Camillus very kindly explained

the meaning and actions to the Mini Vinnies throughout the mass and beautifully anointed the residents present as well as the Mini Vinnies. Once mass was over the Mini Vinnies handed a prayer card to each person and had a little chat. The Mini Vinnies then accompanied Fr Camillus and June throughout the nursing home as Fr gave communion to those who were bedridden. This was a whole new experience for the children. Once Fr had given communion the MV's were able to give out the prayer cards and chat to them.

In all it was a wonderful experience for the MV's and the conversation in the car on the way back to school was a mixture of questions, explanations, feelings and talking about their observations.

The plan is to take small groups throughout the year to these healing Masses so that they all experience this privilege with those who have so wonderfully contributed to our society and community. The Mini Vinnies will also be making visits to do some activities with the residents in term 2.

Youth with a Heart: On Friday 31st March Michelle Kot – The Maitland Newcastle St Vincent de Paul Youth Co-ordinator and myself, with granddaughter along for the ride, travelled to St Joseph's College Lochinvar to make a very special presentation at their assembly. It was quite a different experience to enter the foyer of the main office area to what I had memories of when my own children went there. The school has undergone quite a wonderful transformation to cater for education into the future. Michelle and I were informed that the assembly was going to take place in the new hall for the first time and that it would take a little time to bring the students in slowly. So we sat at the side watching all these amazing students come in very timidly. Gradually I was able to sight different students I recognised from my work as well as many students who were a Mini Vinnie at St Paul's Primary School Rutherford.



Parish News - Rutherford cont'd

Once everyone was settled, Michelle and I were introduced and so the presentation began. We were there to award two appreciation certificates to two students, Eleanor Hearn and Taylor Kite. Eleanor and Taylah, with the schools permission, very generously gave up their end of year activity time to help the Rutherford Conference of the St Vincent de Paul Society and St Paul's school Mini Vinnies. Their contribution consisted of the making and packaging of over ninety gingerbread Christmas biscuits, visiting the Opal Nursing home with the Mini Vinnies from St Paul's to sing Christmas carols and hand out the biscuits. At the end of the visit the girls were quite tired as they had cooked well into the early hours of the morning. They also helped the Mini Vinnies with the toy collection for children of those that the Rutherford Conference were to visit for Christmas. The girls sorted, wrapped and made sure there were enough gifts for the age groups. Of course Eleanor and Taylah would not have been able to do this without the support and help from their parents and St Joseph's College. So "Thank You" for your support and encouragement. These girls have set the bar high with their generosity and hopefully will encourage more young people to help those in need.



CHRISTIAN MEDITATION GROUP AT ST PAUL'S CHURCH RUTHERFORD IS HELD ON WEDNESDAYS 7.00PM.

COLUMBARIUM: Ian 4932 8501; HALL BOOKINGS: Adrian 4932 5601; GARDEN VOLUNTEERS: Peter 4932 8117

Parish News - Morpeth

We are celebrating the ChapelJazz week-end in Morpeth (28,29 & 30th April) and if you are free this afternoon then come and enjoy the Schools Jazz spectacular with performances by the Maitland Grammar school, Brazz Razoo - Newcastle Grammar school and the Hunter School of Performing Arts. Once again there will be the Cafe with a sausage sizzle, afternoon teas with lots of home made goodies.

The Cafe stall will be loaded with locally made jams, pickles, grammar pies and many more tempting treats which can be purchased during the afternoon. Masterchef participants don't hold a candle to these Morpeth cooks. If you can help in any way, your support will be most appreciated.

The major raffle comprising items donated by the local businesses will be drawn during the afternoon.

From all reports the bus trip and Hawkesbury River cruise on 20th April was a most enjoyable day out shared with lots of good company, beautiful weather, lunch and some little added extra surprises included. A special thank you must go to the organiser, Brian Murphy. The next get away will be a bus trip to the Mangrove Mountain Dam picnic area on Thursday 1st June. You will travel by bus from Morpeth, via Singleton to the Hunter valley Gardens for morning tea then onto the Dam site for a barbecue lunch. The bus will then travel through the Mangrove Valley to Morpeth via Gosford. Any monies raised will go towards the Church restoration project. If you are interested then just give Brian a call on 49366688 or see him after mass on any Sunday.

On Sunday 21st May we will be welcoming eight your people as they celebrate their First Holy Communion and Confirmation in our Church. We have invited the children and their families to join in a Community breakfast following Mass on the day. Once again all are welcome to join them in celebrating this special day as full members of the Catholic faith.

Yes the NRL footy season is well and truly under way and the first State of Origin game is set down for Wednesday 31st May. Once again you are invited to get into the spirit of the game while watching it on the large screen in the Corcoran Centre. On the night, high quality footy food will be available at a special price of a gold coin donation.

This is the last week of Fr. Richard Shortall's three week visit to our region in which you can experience and better understand what Praying In Everyday Life is all about. The theme of this final week will be:-

**How Can I Discover What God is Asking of Me?
Making Wise Decisions in Everyday Life with the Help of God.**

Thank you to this month's sponsors

To help us alleviate paper and printing costs, sponsorship is available at \$50 per issue. If you are interested please contact us through the Regional Office, and we will help to promote your business within our Parish communities.



**O'Neills
TYRES**

61 Melbourne Street, East Maitland 2323
 Facsimile (02) 4934 1850
 Telephone (02) 4933 5977

- Best Prices
- Alignments
- Prompt & Friendly Service
- Rego Tickets
- And much more!!



Chardonnay Catering

at the Therry Centre
**CATERING FOR WEDDINGS,
 CONFERENCES,
 SOCIAL EVENTS, FUNERALS.**
 We can cater for all occasions

FOR BOOKING ENQUIRIES PH: 4933 8918
www.chardonnaycatering.com.au



Tony & Margaret Fry

SEVING THE FAMILIES OF
 MAITLAND, NEWCASTLE,
 THE HUNTER VALLEY
 & PORT STEPHENS

48 Banks Street EAST MAITLAND
 Phone : 4933 6155

61 Port Stephens Street
 RAYMOND TERRACE
 Phone : 4983 1644

www.frybros.com.au



Todd Lantry

MASTER PAINTERS & DECORATORS
 ABN 16 197 346 326 | Lic. No. 90561C

P 02 4934 4717 M 0416 154 126

FREE QUOTES & ADVICE

www.toddlantrypainting.com.au
 PO Box 105, Morpeth NSW 2321

Historical Projects | Repaints | New Homes
 Renovations | Special Effects



**The Pure Water
Specialists**

Shop 8 30 Shipley Drive Rutherford
 Phone: 4932 6610
 Email: office@tpwshunter.com

Water coolers
 Water filtration systems
 Alkaline & Pure water
 Delivery or pick up
 Replacement cartridges for any system



**enrights
SOLICITORS**

Providing personalised legal services in:

Conveyancing	Powers of Attorney
Business law	Employment law
Retirement housing	Wills & bequests
Insurance law	Guardianships
Mortgages	Notary Public

467 High Street Maitland NSW 2320
 Ph: 4933 6344 Fax: 4933 1503
 E: mail@enrights-solicitors.com.au / www.enrights-solicitors.com.au

PLEASE PATRONISE OUR ADVERTISERS

And let them know you appreciate their support of the Chisholm Connection. That's the best way to thank them for your monthly newsletter.