



**Maitland Parishes of the
Chisholm Pastoral Region**
*Communities Gathering
in Prayer and Worship*

CHISHOLM CONNECTION

News from the Pews

ST JOSEPH'S (Est 1835)
Cnr King St & New England Hwy
EAST MAITLAND
Sunday Masses: 5pm Saturday Vigil
8.30am; 6pm Regional Youth

ST JOHN THE BAPTIST (Est 1841) Maitland
SACRED HEART, New England Hwy,
CAMPBELL'S HILL
Sunday Mass: 6.30pm Saturday Vigil
HOLY FAMILY, 11 John St, LARGS
Sunday Mass: 8.20am
ST COLUMBA'S, Cnr Prince & Church
Sts, PATERSON Sunday Mass: 9.30am

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION (Est 1871)
Cnr George & James Sts, MORPETH
Sunday Mass: 7.15am

ST PATRICK'S (Est 1905)
55 New England Hwy, LOCHINVAR
Sunday Mass: 9.30am

OUR LADY OF LOURDES (Est 1947)
Cnr Anderson Dr & Delprat Ave,
BERESFIELD
Sunday Mass: 6pm Saturday Vigil

ST PAUL'S (Est 1961)
10 Young St, RUTHERFORD
Sunday Mass: 8am

**We are in the country of the Worimi, Gamilleroi,
Wonnarua, Gweagul, Darkinjung, Biripi and
Awabakal peoples. We respectfully acknowledge
their Elders, celebrate their continuing culture
and the living memory of their ancestors.**

Ministers

All baptised members of the community

Ministry Team

Parish Priest: Fr Paul O'Neill
Asst Priests: Fr John Lovell,
(Presbytery 4934 5783)

Weekend Supply:

Fr Lex Levey, Fr Maurie Cahill,
Fr Greg Arnold, Fr Graham Fullick

**Spiritual care of sick & aged in care or at
home:** Phone Parish Office 49338918

Dying, Bereaved & Funeral Ministry:
0428 220 997

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

Message from Fr Paul O'Neill

Volume 10, Issue 2
FEB/MAR 2020

My dear sisters and brothers,

It was with great joy that the Diocesan community celebrated the ordination to the priesthood of Fr Graham Fullick at the Sacred Heart Cathedral on Saturday the 22nd February. Graham spent his teenage years in East Maitland parish before he went to university and then practised law in Sydney for many years. He completed his studies for the priesthood at the Beda College in Rome. Since returning to Australia Graham has been doing his pastoral placement as a deacon in Raymond Terrace parish and Myall Coast parish. It was with great joy that we welcomed Graham to celebrate a Mass of Thanksgiving at St Joseph's church East Maitland on Sunday 23rd February. Bishop Bill has appointed Graham to be the assistant priest at St Brigid's Raymond Terrace. We wish him every blessing in his priestly ministry.

Last Wednesday we began the season of Lent. These 40 days are an opportunity to renew our Christian life through prayer, fasting and helping others. On the first Sunday of Lent we have a visitor from the Philippines speaking at four of our parish Masses across the region. Through Project Compassion our Lenten sacrifices support many in our world who are in need.

Also on the first Sunday of Lent we have six catechumens who will be going to the Rite of Election conducted by Bishop Bill at the Sacred Heart Cathedral Hamilton at 2.30pm. All are welcome to join these catechumens, their sponsors and the baptised candidates from other Christian churches who will be received into full communion with the Catholic church at Easter time.

The Bishops of Australia have asked that when the Easter Triduum is celebrated, the three liturgies need to be led by a priest (that is, the Mass of the Lord's Supper on Holy Thursday; the Commemoration of the Lord's Passion at 3pm on Good Friday, and the Easter Vigil on Holy Saturday evening. The Bishops have stated that a stand alone Good Friday liturgy is not to be held when not part of a Triduum. However on Good Friday morning, each of the eight church communities can hold the Way of the Cross. I know there has been a tradition at Morpeth Parish and Largs church to hold a 3pm Good Friday liturgy. As from this year, that will no longer be possible, and I realise that some of our parishioners will be disappointed with that decision. I hope you can understand the reasoning behind the Bishops' decision. There will be three Easter Triduums held in the parishes of our region: one at Beresfield; one at East Maitland and one at Campbell's Hill. All eight church communities will have an Easter Sunday Mass.

I pray that this Lenten season will be a time of renewal for all of us as missionary disciples of Jesus Christ.

With love
Fr Paul



FEB/MAR 2020

INSIDE YOU WILL FIND

1-11	Fr Paul's Message; Ordination; SOI; SVdP; RCIA; History Catholic Church in Maitland; Regional /Parish /Dio News; CWLA
12-13	MARCH CALENDAR
14-23	Saints & Feasts; News from Parishes; ACTiv8 Youth - Fr Rob Galea
17,22, 23,24	Sponsors Advertisements

Ordination of Graham Fullick - 22nd February 2020



Ordination at Sacred Heart Cathedral



Vigil Mass at St Brigid's Raymond Terrace

8.30am Sunday Mass at St Joseph's East Maitland



Greg Fullick, Craig Fullick & family



Photos courtesy of Sue Jordan, Margaret Grzanka, Judy Healey, MNNews - thank you.

Welcome Lucy Sneesby-Tooth

My name is Lucy Sneesby-Tooth, I am the newly appointed Family Ministry Coordinator for the Chisholm, Upper Hunter and Vineyards regions. This position is to support the work of pastoral ministries in the diocese which is family- centred, parish based, and school supported. The points of connection with families occur in parishes, schools and the community through a variety of programs and formation experiences.

I am married to Tony who works in IT support at All Saints College. My three sons all reside with us in Rutherford. They are Lachlan 22, Alexander 20 and Cameron 14.

Originally from Lismore I was received into the Catholic church in 2010 through RCIA. My sons had always attended a Catholic primary school, each time they brought home the “To Know Worship and love” textbook I would read it cover to cover till the teacher requested I return it. It sparked a sense of curiosity within me. One Sunday morning I was walking to the Presbyterian Church I attended when my youngest son then 3 climbed up on the brick fence of the catholic church. I begged him to get down, but he just laughed and kept going. Cameron then smiled and said Look!! He ran towards the church doors, before I knew it, I was sitting in the back of the Catholic church. The following day I went to the primary school to talk to the REC about the church he then sent me to the parish office, and I enquired about becoming Catholic. The local church wasn’t offering RCIA due to a lack of volunteers, but another parish in the area was going to offer it. I drove 40kms one way every Tuesday night with three sons in tow for months to complete RCIA.

I am an Oblate of St. Benedict; affiliated with Jamberoo Abbey on the south coast of NSW. An Oblate is a person who wants to make a deeper commitment to God by following the Christian journey in the way it is marked out by St. Benedict – that is, “with the Gospel for our guide”.

I have a working background in legal, education and as a librarian though most recently I worked in learning support at St Bede’s Catholic College.

I love coffee, reading, Latin Mass, research and study. I am currently completing my second qualification in Clinical Pastoral Education and a Graduate Diploma in Theology.

Lucy Sneesby-Tooth

Lucya.sneesby-tooth@mn.catholic.org.au

0417 773 444

Sacraments of Initiation

PRESENTATION OF OUR FATHER will be held at ALL Masses **Saturday 7th and Sunday 8th March**. The children will then be given a copy of the “Our Father” so they also can become familiar with this beautiful prayer.

Fr Paul, Fr John and the Sacramental Team would encourage each community to make these families welcome.

The Children will then receive Reconciliation on the following dates (*please note that these are also Community Reconciliations in preparation for Easter*)



2nd RITE OF RECONCILIATION WILL BE HELD AT 7PM on

Wednesday 18th March at St Pauls Rutherford
Thursday 19th March at Our Lady of Lourdes Beresfield
Wednesday 25th March at Sacred Heart Campbell’s Hill
Thursday 26th March at St Joseph’s East Maitland

1st Rite of RECONCILIATION

The children are also able to attend the regular 1st Rite after 8.00am Mass on the 2nd, 3rd & 4th Saturday of each month and before 9.00am Mass on the 1st Saturday of the month at St Joseph’s Church, East Maitland.

If you have any questions regarding the Sacramental programme please email:

SOIChisholm@mn.catholic.org.au or call our office on 49338918

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.

RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults)



Please keep in your prayers

OUR CATECHUMENS (unbaptised) and **CANDIDATES** (baptised in another Christian denomination or baptised Catholic without completing the other Rites of Initiation)

ST JOSEPH'S East Maitland

Catechumens: Tomara Brown, Troy McWha, Ron Perkins, Meg Martin, Belinda Pearson

Candidates: Brooke Boughton, Nicole Murphy, Drew Reid, Catherine Brown

SACRED HEART Campbell's Hill

Candidate: Richelle Lloyd

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION Morpeth

Catechumen: Elliott Plank

OUR LADY OF LOURDES Beresfield

Candidate: Nigel Richardson

If you or someone you know have any enquiries about RCIA, please contact Margaret Smith on 0419 335 878, the Chisholm Office 4933 8918 or myself 0448 924 771.

Wayne Smith
on behalf of the Maitland Parishes of the Chisholm Pastoral Region RCIA Team.

Rite of Election

1 MARCH 2020

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA)

Humans are seekers of purpose and meaning. This search brings many to faith, to Christianity and to the Catholic Church.

As a Church community we welcome these people through the celebration of the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA). In this process we accompany them as their relationship with Jesus grows and they learn from us how to live as disciples of Jesus.

It is important that the whole Church gathers to support and pray for our catechumens.

We invite you to do this by attending the Rite of Election with them on the first Sunday of Lent.

Time
2.30 PM

Where
Sacred Heart Cathedral
841 Hunter St, Newcastle West

Afternoon tea
with Catechumens, their Sponsors
and families follows the Rite

RSVP
For catering purposes to
Esharon.murphy@mn.catholic.org.au
P 4979 1134

FIRST SATURDAY DEVOTIONS – 7th MARCH 2020

St Joseph's East Maitland



8.30am	Reconciliation & Holy Rosary
9.00am	Mass
9.45am approx.	Adoration & Reconciliation
10.00am approx.	Benediction
Morning Tea served in the Therry Centre	
The presider will be Fr Graham Fullick . Morning tea will be served in the Therry Centre. Fr Graham will give a faith talk and Philip and Margaret Maloney will give a presentation in the Therry Centre following morning tea.	

First Saturday Devotions are a response to the request made by Our Lady of Fatima that "On the First Saturday of every month, Communions of Reparation are to be made in atonement for the sins of the world " and blasphemies and offenses against Our Lady's Immaculate Heart.

Everyone is welcome to attend.



BUSHFIRE APPEAL



In the wake of the devastating bushfires which have resulted in lives lost, properties destroyed and much countryside razed to the ground, the response of the Australian community has been little short of inspiring.

In our local region, people have been extremely generous in supporting the Vinnies Bushfire Appeal. Many thanks to all.

Funds raised for the Bushfire Appeal amounted to 8500.00.

It is worth noting that early on some state politicians were critical of charities for not releasing funds quickly enough.

Interestingly, the same politicians later that week were defending the state government for being too slow in distributing funds.

You can be assured that, in the aftermath of the destruction wrought by the fires, the Society and its members were very quickly on the ground, drawing on its own funds to support those in desperate need, even before the Appeals were set up. Support included financial packages, essential items such as food, water, clothing and bedding, and emotional support for those affected.

While our own region was fortunate to escape the impact of the fires, I am aware of the destruction visited upon other areas such as Taree, and the support provided by our members in those areas. Our members and volunteers will stay alongside those people affected for the long months of recovery ahead.

Rest assured that every cent donated to the Vinnies Bushfire Appeal will go the bushfire victims. No administration fees are taken from the Appeal, meaning the money raised goes directly to the relief and recovery effort.

Vinnies is focused on doing what it has always done – assist people to rebuild their lives as they re-establish their home, their livelihoods and their spirit. Assistance will be provided during the difficult months ahead for those people who have lost everything.

CHRISTMAS APPEAL

Once again sincere thanks to parishioners in the local region for their wonderful generosity in supporting the Christmas Appeal last December. Total funds contributed were \$22,733.

Many thanks
Michael Healy
Regional President

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 Warren Clarke on 4966 3683. 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."



WALKA GRANGE

LIFESTYLE VILLAGE

The Hunter's Premium Over 55's Lifestyle Village
Providing Affordable Luxury in Retirement

It's Not just the Future You've Dreamed of...
The Future You've Earned!

Waterworks Road, Rutherford. NSW 2320

Phone: 4932 1901 Email: sales@walkagrangec.com.au

The Australian Catholic Directory For 1890 gives the following description of the Diocese of Maitland –

As established in 1848, the Diocese of Maitland consisted of the Borough of East Maitland only. By Papal Brief of 13th April, 1866, it was very much extended, and again by Papal Brief 10th May, 1887, it was reduced to its present limits.

Comprising the territory from Camden Haven to Red Head on the East Coast of NSW westward to Wallar and Cassilis on the west, to Murrurundi and a point 10 miles south of Mount Seaview on the north.

The diocesan boundaries remained unchanged from 1887 until 1st January, 1966 when the Lake Macquarie district was added.

The 1890 directory gives the following description of the parishes, churches, and clergy, that encompasses what is today our Chisholm Pastoral Region.

WEST MAITLAND – *Right Rev. Dr Murray, Very Rev. P. Hand, Rev. E. P. Sheehy, Rev. J. O'Donohoe, Rev. P. Roche, Very Rev. J. McGough, St John's Cathedral; Convent Church of Saints Mary and Laurence; St. Patrick's Lochinvar (used as church and school); St. Helen's, Gresford; St. Columba's, Paterson; Church of Sacred Heart, Summerhill; and four stations. Parochial schools, West Maitland, 400; Lochinvar, 75; Knockfin, 40.*

EAST MAITLAND – *Rev. P. O'Leary, St Joseph's, East Maitland; St. Patrick's, Brook's Flat. Parochial schools – East Maitland, 130; Dunmore, 80.*

MORPETH – *Very Rev. P. T. Corcoran (absent on leave), Rev. J. T. Clancy, St Bede's Morpeth (used as church and school). Parochial school, 160.*

Before Bishop Murray set sail on his journey to Australia he had returned to Ireland in the hope of obtaining extra priests for his new Diocese. At the same time he arranged for a community of Dominican Sisters to follow him to Australia. Almost immediately upon his arrival in Maitland in October 1866, Bishop James Murray, was corresponding with the Dominican Sisters at Kingstown, Ireland, proclaiming '*you are wanted very badly here*' and giving the sisters details of the preparations that had been made to accommodate and welcome them to Maitland.

The 1890 directory gives details of the **Religious Orders** in the Maitland area at that time –

Dominican Nuns founded from Kingstown, Ireland in 1867. Dominican Convent, West Maitland. Number in community 25. From Maitland other Dominican communities had been founded: Newcastle (1873), Tamworth (1875), Waratah (Deaf & Dumb Institution) 1889.

Sisters of Mercy founded from Ennis, County Clare, Ireland in 1875 at Singleton. Morpeth founded 1883, number in community 6; East Maitland founded 1885, number in community 5. Others Sisters of Mercy communities in the diocese: Singleton (1875), Murrurundi (1879), Raymond Terrace (1881), Musclebrook (1883), Lambton (1883), Hamilton (1884), Branxton (1880), Scone (1887).

Sisters of St Joseph founded from Bathurst, NSW in 1883. Convent Lochinvar founded 1883, number in community 11; Dunmore (Largs) founded 1889, number in community 3. Other Josephite communities in the diocese: Merriwa (1885), Cessnock (1886), Burwood (1888), Carrington (1888), Dungog (1889).

Opportunities for children's education had also grown as per the 1890 directory.

Superior Schools in our area:

Sacred Heart College, West Maitland – 30 boarders, 25 day boys.

Dominican Convent-Boarding and Day School, West Maitland – 46 boarders, 40 day pupils.

Sisters of Mercy-Day Schools - East Maitland 7 pupils; Morpeth 11 pupils.

There were another 30 parish primary schools throughout the diocese with 2,830 children attending.

As more priests became available, the West Maitland and East Maitland parishes were subdivided into smaller parishes each with their own or shared Parish Priest.

Today with the decline in priestly vocations, the diocesan parish communities have again been drawn together and operate under various models. The Chisholm Pastoral Region operates under the Shared Parish Priest model and currently we have two resident priests who serve our communities. Our Chisholm Pastoral Region includes the parishes of St Joseph's East Maitland, St John the Baptist Maitland (with three mass centres – Sacred Heart Campbell's Hill, Holy Family Largs and St Columba's Paterson), Immaculate Conception Morpeth, St Patrick's Lochinvar, Our Lady of Lourdes Beresfield and St Paul's Rutherford.

Catholic education for both primary and secondary students is still in very high demand. Currently there are three secondary schools in the Maitland area with six feeder primary schools.

to be continued.....

Project Compassion 2020 - Lenten Commission

The Launch of Project Compassion was held Tuesday 25th February at Sacred Heart Cathedral. Representatives from each of our communities were represented and received a Commissioning letter from Bishop Bill. This commissioning will ask your community to stand together in prayer and offering hope to the most needy.



Lenten Commission for 2020

The Project Compassion theme for 2020 is *Go Further Together*.

I commission you to take up the Caritas Compassion Project with the love and compassion of the first disciples Jesus sent to proclaim the kingdom of heaven by their words and actions.

This Lent I commission you to ...

- Contemplate: be aware of God's presence with you and God's love for you and the world.
- Pray: it is the responsibility of everyone who is baptised to pray for others.
- Listen: to the Word of God and the stories that Project Compassion offers each week of Lent. What is God saying to us through these stories?
- Act justly: in all your relationships and in your care for our earth.
- Be generous: give as much as you can to the poor via the Project Compassion boxes I will give you, and give of yourself wherever you are.
- And fast: go without – don't consume so much; live more simply; and fast from the things in your life that are unjust.

Most Reverend William Wright
Bishop of Maitland-Newcastle



**PROJECT
COMPASSION**
GO FURTHER TOGETHER



**Caritas
AUSTRALIA**

End poverty
Promote justice
Uphold dignity

LENT.CARITAS.ORG.AU



**PROJECT
COMPASSION**
GO FURTHER TOGETHER
PLEASE GIVE
GENEROUSLY



What's Happening in the Chisholm Region/Diocese

BAPTISM PROCESS: PLEASE NOTE anyone wishing to have their child/children baptised within our region **MUST** attend a **Baptism Preparation Talk**. Completed Baptism registration forms and payment will be collected on this night. †Parents are urged to attend the Youth Mass as a family.

NEXT BAPTISM PREPARATION SESSION:
Sunday 1st March 2020 (After Youth Mass)
Sunday 5th April 2020 (After Youth Mass)

† **BAPTISMS:** All enquiries for baptisms are to be lodged with the Regional Office; this includes private baptisms in our region. **4933 8918 / chisholm@mn.catholic.org.au.**

Chisholm Connection		
Deadline & Distribution Dates 2020		
ISSUE	EDITORIAL DEADLINE	DISTRIBUTION DATE
MARCH	23rd March	29th March 2020
<p>For enquiries please contact 4933 8918/email chisholm@mn.catholic.org.au (Please be aware these dates could change)</p>		

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/School 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).

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/places/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/places/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.

† **OFFICE OF SAFEGUARDING THE CHILD PROTECTION, HEALING AND SUPPORT** agency of the Catholic Diocese of Maitland–Newcastle can be contacted 4979 1383.

† **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 ALL Masses, at St Joseph's church, East Maitland. Marion Riley 0412 811 759.

† **CHILDREN'S LITURGY** helpers needed for the 8.30am Mass at St Joseph's East Maitland. If you are interested in assisting our leaders, please contact Sandra Buck 0425 281 674. Thank you.

† **ST JOSEPH'S EAST MAITLAND SPIRITUAL LIBRARY** is set up in the prayer room at the side of the church 24 hours a day. Books are available for you to borrow and is run on an honour basis. Please note the date, your name and contact details in the book provided. This is a wonderful resource made available to you at no cost. ADORATION is held every Monday 12-1pm.

† **PAROUSIA CD STAND** is located in the side porch of St. Joseph's Church, East Maitland. Parousia and Fr Paul encourage engagement with the parish. The CD's contain many wonderful talks on the Catholic faith which can be easily listened to at home, in the car or whilst taking a walk. Your faith will be enriched. CD's and small booklets are \$5.00.

† **PARISH CELLS OF EVANGELISATION** You are most welcome to join us! We listen, reflect, support and pray and reach out to others in our day-to-day lives. Groups meet every 2nd week. Meetings and Leaders as follows:

Monday evening Rotating venue each 3-4 months - David Redgrove 0413 586 688 / Leanne O'Sullivan 0410 422 495.
 Wednesday evening Metford: Mary Tupou 0432 578 431 or Paul Cuskelly 4933 2301.

Thursday 1.30pm Metford: Yvonne Rohr 0432 550 986.
 For any enquiries please phone any of the above contacts.

† **ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT** First Friday of each month - from after Mass at 7am till 9am
 Saturday Mass at St Joseph's East Maitland. Next date: Friday 6th March 2020. All welcome.

What's Happening in the Chisholm Region/Diocese

EAST MAITLAND LENTEN PROGRAMME

You are invited to attend a five week "Life In The Spirit" seminar that will be held during March 2020. Philip and Margaret Maloney, Lay Catholic Missionaries, will be the facilitators. The seminar will be held in the Therry Centre on Tuesdays following the Evening Mass - 8.00pm til 9.30pm.

Programme:

- 3rd March** *God, the Father's unconditional love.*
10th March *Jesus, our Saviour and Lord.*
17th March *The Holy Spirit gives new life.*
24th March *Praying for a fresh outpouring of the Holy Spirit.*
31st March *Being renewed by Christ's Passion, Death and Resurrection.*

The seminar will help you prepare for the Easter Triduum; give new awareness of Christ's presence in our lives; benefit you with the great value of prayer, fasting and almsgiving; provide a new attraction for the Scriptures; give you confidence in using the Gifts of the Holy Spirit and being filled with the Holy Spirit will help us to evangelise.

Fr Paul has given his approval for this Lenten Programme and we ask for your prayers and for the Holy Spirit to bless this programme as we begin our preparation for a grace filled Easter.

MORE LENTEN GROUPS :

St Patrick's Lochinvar : Wednesdays 7-8.30pm
LOL Beresfield : Tuesdays 9.30am

STATIONS OF THE CROSS:

St Joseph's East Maitland : Fridays 7pm
LOL Beresfield : Fridays 6pm
Immaculate Conception Morpeth : Fridays 10am (Mary's Way of the Cross)

INVITATION TO MAGDALENE AWARD PRESENTATION

Please accept this invitation to join Bishop Bill in the announcement of the recipient of the 2020 Magdalene Award. This award recognises a woman living in, and committed to, the Diocese of Maitland Newcastle. This is a public affirmation of a life lived in ways that echo the spirit of Mary Magdalene.

Date: **Sunday March 8 2020**
Time: **9.30 am Mass at Sacred Heart Cathedral,
Hunter St Newcastle West**
Followed by light refreshments of Tea and Scones in the Davis Courtyard

RSVP: **for catering purposes to**
helene.oneill@mn.catholic.org.au
If multiple parish members are attending, an email with numbers is sufficient.

The organising committee is looking forward to welcoming you on this special occasion. Thank you
COUNCIL FOR AUSTRALIAN CATHOLIC WOMEN CONTACT
GROUP IN THE DIOCESE OF MAITLAND-NEWCASTLE



6 March 2020

World Day of Prayer

Pray for Zimbabwe



Everyone is welcome to attend
worlddayofprayeraustralia.org

The World Day of Prayer is a global ecumenical movement led by Christian women who welcome you to join in prayer and action for peace and justice. It is run under the motto "Informed Prayer and Prayerful Action," and is celebrated annually in over 170 countries on the first Friday in March. The movement aims to bring together people of various races, cultures and traditions in a yearly common Day of Prayer, as well as in closer fellowship, understanding and action throughout the year.

EAST MAITLAND Uniting Church
37 William St at 10.30am
BERESFIELD Tarro Baptist Church
150 Anderson Dr at 10am
RUTHERFORD Uniting Church
Weblands St at 7.30pm
MORPETH Uniting Church
98 High St at 10am

ALL WELCOME - refreshments after service

CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE members in the Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle are members of their parishes and the diocese in positions of leadership, service and collegiality. All women in this Diocese are invited to an **information morning Saturday, 14th March** commencing with Morning Tea at 9:30am in the Corcoran Centre, George St, Morpeth. Guest Speaker/Facilitator - Mrs Peg McEntee OAM, a past CWLA National President, NSW State President and WUCWO International Secretary. Contact:
cwlamn214@gmail.com /0409 300 192

What's Happening in the Chisholm Region/Diocese

Catechists Mass

Bishop Bill invites you to an annual celebration of the wonderful work of catechists on Saturday 21 March at 2pm, at Sacred Heart Cathedral, Newcastle West. Celebrate the ministry of Special Religious Education, Sacraments of Initiation, RCIA and Children's Liturgy.

2020 Christian Formation Course

This course will commence on 28 April. Participants can choose to attend on Tuesday evenings at CatholicCare, Mayfield or Wednesday mornings at the Corcoran Centre, Morpeth. If you would like to enrich your faith, be better equipped to participate in conversations with friends or colleagues about issues of faith, or join a class of like-minded people wishing to explore their faith, see the flyer available from your parish office or the Adult Faith Formation page on mn.catholic.org.au.

Back to Singleton 2020 In conjunction with the celebrations in Singleton for the 200th anniversary since the town was discovered, St Patrick's Parish will be celebrating this and the Feast of St Patrick with one Mass on Sunday 15 March 2020 at 10am at St Patrick's Church, Queen St, Singleton. Mass will be followed by morning tea in St Catherine's Catholic College hall with a display of Parish and College memorabilia. All past and present Parishioners are invited to attend and the Parish would welcome any contributions to the display (photos, booklets, certificates, clothing or written memories). Please contact the Parish Office on 02 5507 4048 for more details.

The TWEC Dinner will be held on Friday 8 May at 6.30pm for 7pm start at the Therry Centre, New England Hwy, East Maitland. Special guest Aaron Kearney, multi-award winning broadcaster, journalist, sports commentator will speak on personal connections, universal stories. Ticket information out soon; call 4979 1111 for more information.



Marriage Enrichment Weekend :

Take the time to step back from everyday distractions and rediscover your relationship! **17th – 19th April, 2020** at Mt Carmel Retreat Centre, Varroville,

NSW. Book online at www.wvme.org.au. Alternatively contact Adrian and Janet Sullivan: on 0490 774 419 or adrian.janet1@bigpond.com

Some Useful Diocesan Links

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Catholic Women's League Australia Inc Member

Organisation of the World Union of Catholic Women's Organisations (WUCWO) NGO Consultant (roster) status with the Economics and Social Council of the United Nations

Catholic Women's League in the Chisholm Pastoral Region meets on the first Thursday of the month at the Therry Centre commencing at 2:00pm. The next meeting is at 2:00pm on Thursday, 5th March. All welcome!

WUCWO (World Union of Catholic Women's Organisations) Asia Pacific Regional Conference : 18 – 22 MAY, 2020

The planning and preparation for the WUCWO Asia Pacific Regional Conference are well underway. Catholic Women's League Australia, organizers of the Conference have settled on a great venue, central location, fantastic speakers together with activities and an opportunity for a pilgrimage.

The WUCWO Asia Pacific Regional Conference will be held in Sydney from 18-22 May 2020.

Venue: Rydges World Square Hotel, 389 Pitt Street, SYDNEY
Registration Costs: \$430 Australian Dollars

The Conference begins on the morning of Monday, 19 May and concludes on Thursday 21 May in the afternoon. You will need to book into the hotel on Monday, 18 May 2020 and check out on the morning of Friday 22 May 2020. Accommodation is an additional cost. Bookings must be received by 27th April 2020. Registration forms will be on CWLA Website.

Maria Lia Zervino, President General of WUCWO, will be attending the Conference.

It is a wonderful opportunity for members of CWLA and all women to network with Catholic women from many countries in the Asia Pacific region. Friendships are nurtured and a deeper understanding of the pressing needs of women and families of our regional neighbours and how they are tackled will inspire us to continue to strengthen CWLA.

For further information about CWLA in the Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle please contact cwlamn214@gmail.com or phone 0409 300 192.

FIRST COLLECTION provides for priests of the Region & Diocese: their monthly stipend, household food, cooking & cleaning. **SECOND COLLECTION** provides for all the running expenses of your parish, buildings, staff, insurance, clergy motor vehicles, regional groups. **Thank you for the support** of our weekly collections but would like to impress on you the importance of the second collection.

PLEASE NOTE any ANNIVERSARIES and NOTICES TO APPEAR IN BULLETINS will need to be received at the office by WEDNESDAY no later than 10am. AND please ensure NAMES (AND DATE OF BULLETIN APPEARANCE) are PRINTED in BLOCK LETTERS on the FRONT of the envelope. This can be either sent, emailed, faxed to the office or placed on the second collection plate at Mass. Thank you.

A Concert with Fr Rob Galea

Activ8 Youth - Concert with Fr Rob Galea will be held 31 March at 6.30pm - 8.00pm at All Saints College, St Mary's Campus, 16 Grant St Maitland. Tickets \$13. For tickets go to [Eventbrite.com](https://www.eventbrite.com) and type 'Activ8 Youth - Concert with Fr Rob Galea'. For more information about Fr Rob see www.frgministry.com/



THE ACTIV8 CHISHOLM YOUTH
MINISTRY PRESENTS

*A Concert with
Fr Rob Galea*

TUESDAY 31ST MARCH 2020
6.30-8PM
ALL SAINTS' COLLEGE, ST MARY'S CAMPUS
16 GRANT ST, MAITLAND NSW 2320

**A musical extravaganza featuring
the best Christian music out there!**

HURRY! BUY A TICKET NOW AT [EVENTBRITE.COM.AU](https://www.eventbrite.com.au)
Type in "ACTiv8 Youth - Concert with Fr Rob Galea"

SPECIAL RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (SRE) is an important ministry that supports parents, students, clergy and parishes in the religious education of Catholic students attending government schools. SRE is often referred to as 'Scripture' and SRE volunteers may be referred to as Catechists or Scripture Teachers. **How do I become an SRE volunteer?** Special Religious Education (SRE) teachers are volunteers who are authorised and commissioned by the parish priest to go into the classroom to teach religious education using an approved curriculum.

Scripture classes begin again in March. If you are interested in becoming an SRE teacher and have half an hour to spare each week, please contact the parish office 4933 8918 or Jan Healy 4933 1302.

Many hands make light work!

Chisholm Region Calendar

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY
<p>Please note all care and attention is taken to ensure that times, dates and places are correct at time of publication.</p> <p>If you have any queries please contact the regional office.</p>			
<p>2</p> <p>12:00pm Holy Hour of Prayer & Exposition (EM)</p> <p>6:00pm Jr. Youth Group (Ruth.)</p> <p>7:30pm LOW (Rutherford)</p>	<p>3</p> <p>9:30am St Josephs SM (East Maitland)</p> <p>5:30pm Jnr Youth Group (Therry Centre)</p> <p>7:00pm Youth Mass (EM)</p>	<p>4</p> <p>9:30am OLOL SM (Tarro)</p> <p>12:00pm Mass (St John's Chapel, Mait)</p> <p>5:30pm Jnr Youth Group (Largs)</p> <p>6:30pm RCIA (Therry Centre)</p> <p>7:00pm Youth Mass (Largs)</p>	<p>5</p> <p>7:00am Mass (EM)</p> <p>10:00am St Joseph's SM (Lochinvar)</p> <p>6:00pm RPC meeting</p>
<p>9</p> <p>12:00pm Holy Hour of Prayer & Exposition (EM)</p> <p>6:00pm Jr. Youth Group (Ruth.)</p> <p>7:30pm LOW (Rutherford)</p>	<p>10</p> <p>5:30pm Jnr Youth Group (Therry Centre)</p> <p>7:00pm Parish Team Mtg (OLOL Hall)</p> <p>7:00pm Youth Mass (EM)</p>	<p>11</p> <p>10:00am Anoint Mass (Opal - Anambah Rd, Ruth)</p> <p>12:00pm Mass (St John's Chapel, Mait)</p> <p>5:30pm Jnr Youth Group (Largs)</p> <p>6:30pm RCIA (Therry Centre)</p> <p>6:30pm RCIA (Therry Centre)</p> <p>7:00pm Youth Mass (Largs)</p>	<p>12</p> <p>7:00am Mass (EM)</p> <p>10:00am St John's SM (Maitland)</p> <p>6:00pm RFC meeting</p>
<p>16</p> <p>12:00pm Holy Hour of Prayer & Exposition (EM)</p> <p>6:00pm Jr. Youth Group (Ruth.)</p> <p>7:30pm LOW (Rutherford)</p>	<p>17</p> <p>ST PATRICK</p> <p>10:30am Anoint Mass (EM - Therry Centre)</p> <p>5:30pm Jnr Youth Group (Therry Centre)</p> <p>6:00pm St Patrick's Day Mass (Lochinvar)</p> <p>7:00pm Youth Mass (EM)</p>	<p>18</p> <p>12:00pm Mass (St John's Chapel, Mait)</p> <p>5:30pm Jnr Youth Group (Largs)</p> <p>6:00pm 2nd Rite of Reconciliation (Rutherford Church)</p> <p>6:30pm RCIA (Therry Centre)</p> <p>7:00pm Youth Mass (Largs)</p>	<p>19</p> <p>ST JOSEPH</p> <p>7:00am Mass (EM)</p> <p>10:10am St Peter's SM (Maitland)</p> <p>6:00pm 2nd Rite of Reconciliation (Beresfield Church)</p> <p>7:00pm EM Parish Team Meeting (Therry Centre)</p>
<p>23</p> <p>12:00pm Holy Hour of Prayer & Exposition (EM)</p> <p>6:00pm Jr. Youth Group (Ruth.)</p> <p>7:30pm LOW (Rutherford)</p>	<p>24</p> <p>9:30am St Paul's SM (Rutherford)</p> <p>5:30pm Jnr Youth Group (Therry Centre)</p> <p>7:00pm Youth Mass (EM)</p>	<p>25</p> <p>10:00am Anoint. Mass (Benhome)</p> <p>12:00pm Mass (St John's Chapel, Mait)</p> <p>5:30pm Jnr Youth Group (Largs)</p> <p>6:00pm 2nd Rite of Reconciliation (Campbell's Hill Church)</p> <p>6:30pm RCIA (Therry Centre)</p> <p>7:00pm Youth Mass (Largs)</p>	<p>26</p> <p>7:00am Mass (EM)</p> <p>10:00am St Mary's SM (Maitland)</p> <p>6:00pm 2nd Rite of Reconciliation (East Maitland Church)</p>
<p>30</p> <p>12:00pm Holy Hour of Prayer & Exposition (EM)</p> <p>6:00pm Jr. Youth Group (Ruth.)</p> <p>7:30pm LOW (Rutherford)</p>	<p>31</p> <p>ROB GALEA CONCERT!</p> <p>5:30pm Jnr Youth Group (Therry Centre)</p> <p>6:30pm A Concert with Rob Galea (St Mary's Campus)</p> <p>7:00pm Youth Mass (EM)</p>		

FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
		1 Mar 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 Regional KIDS Mass (EM) 7:00pm Baptism Preparation (EM)
6 World Day of Prayer 7:00am Mass (EM) 8:00am Adoration (E/M 7am-Sat 9am) 9:30am Prayer of the Church (Beres. Church) 10:00am St Aloysius SM (Chisholm)	7 Presentation of the Our Father 9:00am Mass + First Sat Devotions with Fr Graham Fullick (EM) 5:00pm Mass (EM) 6:00pm Mass (Beresfield) 6:30pm Mass (C Hill)	8 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 Regional Youth Mass (EM)
13 7:00am Mass (EM) 9:30am Prayer of the Church (Beres. Church) 10:30am Anoint Mass (Greenhills NH)	14 8:00am Mass/Reconciliation (EM) 5:00pm Mass (EM) 6:00pm Mass (Beresfield) 6:30pm Mass (C Hill)	15 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 Regional Youth Mass (EM)
20 7:00am Mass (EM) 9:30am Prayer of the Church (Beres. Church) 9:30am St Patrick's SM (Lochinvar)	21 8:00am Mass (EM) 2:00pm Catechist Mass (Cathedral Hamilton) 5:00pm Mass (EM) 6:00pm Mass (Beresfield) 6:30pm Mass (C Hill)	22 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 Regional Youth Mass (EM)
27 7:00am Mass (EM) 9:30am Prayer of the Church (Beres. Church) 10:30am Anoint Mass (Opal Broughton St Ruth)	28 8:00am Mass (EM) 5:00pm Mass (EM) 6:00pm Mass (Beresfield) 6:30pm Mass (C Hill)	29 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 Regional Youth Mass (EM)

For I know the plans I have for you," declares the LORD, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future. Then you will call on me and come and pray to me, and I will listen to you. You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart.
 - Jeremiah 29:11-13 (NIV)

Saints and Feasts in March 2020



4/3/20. St Casimir was a prince of Poland; the third son of king Casimir IV. As a young man he refused to take up arms against any Christian country and also refused to marry the daughter of Emperor Frederick III. Instead he preferred a life of celibacy and devotion to God. In 1484 he died of tuberculosis at the age of 26. Soon after his death, miracles were reported at his tomb.

He is the patron saint of Poland and Lithuania.

6/3/20. Autumn Ember Day. Ember Days (from the German *Quatember*, 'quarter day', or, as the Irish used to say, *Quarter Tense*) mark the beginning of each of the four seasons. Kept in the Roman church since the fifth century, they are observed in Australia on the first Fridays of Autumn and Spring as special days of prayer and penance.



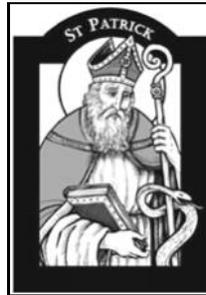
7/3/20. Ss Perpetua and Felicity were martyrs of Roman Carthage, c.204. Perpetua was a young married woman with a newly born son. She was arrested for refusing to offer sacrifice to the Emperor and during this time was allowed to keep her son with her in prison. Also arrested was a slave-girl called Felicity, who was advanced in pregnancy and gave birth to a girl while in prison. Perpetua and Felicity and several men were all found guilty of treason and were taken to the arena to be killed by wild beasts. Perpetua and Felicity showed great bravery and survived their encounter with a mad heifer, but at the request of the jeering crowd were eventually put to the sword.



8/3/20. St John of God was originally a soldier who fought for Spain against the French and the Turks. Around the age of forty, he repented his former life and converted to a life of service to God. In 1539 he bought a house and gave shelter and care to the sick and needy. After his death, John's followers formed a

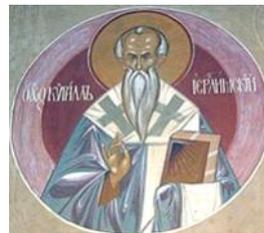
Religious Order of hospitalers, the Brothers of St John of God. He is the patron saint of nurses, hospitals and the sick.

9/3/20. St Frances of Rome was born in 1384. Frances was forced into marriage and lived for forty years as wife, mother and house-keeper before she was able to realise her dream of being a nun and ascetic. She established a community of laywomen who followed the Rule of St Benedict and ministered to the poor. Frances was a dedicated laywoman who in a time of plague and civil war, worked tirelessly for the poor and the sick yet without

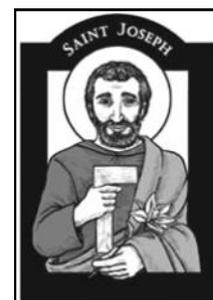


compromising her love for her husband and family. Nursing her husband till his death, she then moved into the house with the other Oblates and was superior for the four remaining years of her life. She died on this day in 1440.

17/3/20. St Patrick was born in Britain c.385 and as a young man was captured by Irish pirates and sold into slavery. After six years in Ireland he escaped, returned to his family and trained for the priesthood in Gaul. In c.435 he returned to Ireland as a missionary bishop. Through his work, Christianity flourished and the church became organised. Although not extensively learned, St Patrick was known for his sincerity and pastoral care, and was largely concerned with abolishing paganism and idolatry and encouraged monasticism. There are many legends about Ireland's most beloved saint, including his use of the shamrock for explaining the trinity, and his banishing of all snakes from Ireland.



18/3/20. St Cyril of Jerusalem was a distinguished theologian of the early Church (315-386). About the end of 350 AD he succeeded Maximus as Bishop of Jerusalem, but was exiled on more than one occasion due to the enmity of Acacius of Caesarea, and the policies of various emperors. Cyril left important writings documenting the instruction of catechumens and the other of the Liturgy in his day. He is venerated as a saint by the Roman Catholic church, Eastern Orthodox church, Oriental Orthodox church and the Anglican communion. In 1883, Cyril was declared a Doctor of the Church by pope Leo XIII. He is highly respected in the Palestinian Christian Community.



19/3/20. St Joseph, the spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary and adoptive father of Jesus, was a descendant of King David and a carpenter by trade. During his betrothal to Mary he became distressed when he heard that she was with child, but an angelic vision reassured him that this was all part of God's plan. After Jesus' birth he was warned in a dream to flee with his family to Egypt, in order to escape from King Herod. Joseph showed great faith in his willingness to do whatever God asked of him.



23/3/20. St Turibius of Mogrovejo, a Spaniard, (born Mayorga 1538) served God from his infancy. Appointed Archbishop of Lima, he landed in South America in 1581. He died March 23, 1606, having, by his indefatigable zeal and by the boundlessness of his charity,

Saints and Feasts in March 2020

literally renewed the face of the Church of Peru. **Patron:** Peru, Latin American Bishops, Native Rights, (Also, Lawyers may seek his intercession because he was a Lawyer in Spain)

25/2/20. The **Annunciation of the Lord.** The feast of the Annunciation of the Lord celebrates Angel Gabriel's appearance to the Virgin Mary ([Luke 1:26-38](#)) and his



announcement that she had been chosen to be the mother of the saviour of the world. Also being celebrated during this feast was Mary's *fiat*, which means "let it be" in Latin - her willing acceptance of the news, and immediately Christ was conceived in her womb through the power of the Holy Spirit. The Annunciation testifies powerfully to the truth of the Catholic tradition that Mary was indeed a virgin when Christ was conceived, but also that she intended to remain one perpetually.

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**Chisholm Region Kids Mass - First Sunday of each month
St Joseph's East Maitland @ 6.00pm - for Families and Kids!
ALL Welcome!**

Chisholm Region @ St Joseph's East Maitland

KIDS MARCH MASS

Bring the kids ... Bring the whole family...
A special welcome to Kinder 2020
MUSIC, CUSHIONS, SAUSAGES, CAKE, FUN, FRIENDS, JESUS!!
SUNDAY 1ST MARCH 6PM
COME EARLIER TO JOIN IN WITH THE MUSIC, DO A READING, OR OTHER MINISTRY

REGIONAL

PALM SUNDAY

HOSANNA IN THE HIGHEST

KIDS MASS

SUNDAY 5th April 6pm
St Joseph's East Maitland

HOSANNA

EVERYONE WELCOME!
BRING THE WHOLE FAMILY!
The procession of the palms features a
real donkey
Special Thanks to Good Samaritan Donkey Sanctuary Inc

CHISHOLM MAY

KIDS MASS

6pm Sunday 3rd MAY
at St Joseph's East Maitland

Music, pillows, cake, BBQ - JESUS!!
Especially for families and kids....come and be part of it!
Text or call for info:- Sue 0414 890 813

Parish News - St Joseph's East Maitland

“Of droughts and flooding rains” – what an amazing change in our weather! Dorothea Mackellar’s poem *My Country* has turned to reality this past month. “*The filmy veil of greenness*” has definitely “*thickened as we gaze*” and the lawn mowers are back in use. We are very fortunate to live in such a great and diverse county.

We were very privileged to have Fr Graham Fullick celebrate a Mass of Thanksgiving in his home parish of St Joseph’s. We congratulate Fr Graham on his recent ordination and will keep him in our prayers as he begins his priestly ministry.

The next monthly ‘cuppa’ will be served after Masses on the weekend of 7th/8th **March**. Hopefully the autumn weather will be kinder to us. If anyone is able to bring a plate to share it would be greatly appreciated. Please join us.

First Saturday Devotions 7th March – Begins at 8.30am with Rosary and Reconciliation with Mass at 9am followed by Adoration before the Blessed Sacrament and then Benediction. The presider will be Fr Graham Fullick. Morning tea will be served in the Therry Centre. The faith talk will be given by Fr Graham and Philip and Margaret Maloney will give a presentation in the Therry Centre following morning tea. All welcome.

PARISH TEAM – The February Parish Team meeting’s main agenda item was the future of the Therry Centre and the cost of repairs that were needed and how to proceed. The team wishes to assure parishioners that they are aware of other items that need attending to, especially in the church (such as fans), but with limited funds, these items need to be prioritised. Any help would be greatly appreciated. The implementation of suggestions made by parishioners at the 2019 Parish Assembly was also discussed. The next Team meeting will be held on Thursday 19th March at 7.00pm in the Therry Centre. Parishioners are welcome to attend. Please contact Judy 4934 8232 for more information.

LENTEN PROGRAMME – During the month of March a five week “*Life In The Spirit*” seminar will be held in the Therry Centre on Tuesday evenings from 8.00pm until 9.30pm, following the 7pm Mass. The facilitators will be lay missionaries, Philip and Margaret Maloney. **Programme: 3rd March** - God, the Father’s unconditional love; **10th March** – Jesus, our Saviour and Lord; **17th March** - The Holy Spirit gives new life; **24th March** - Praying for a fresh outpouring of the Holy Spirit; and **31st March** - Being renewed by Christ’s Passion, Death and Resurrection. All are invited to attend.

THANK YOU - I would like to take this opportunity to thank Pat Macpherson for her dedication to the parish during the last 20 plus years. She has faithfully opened her home for prayer meetings and home masses, has been a dedicated member of the Catholic Women’s League and various other organisations. She is an inspiration to us all and we wish her well and know that she will be well looked after by her daughter and son-in-law in Thornton. Thank you also to Judy Chlebowicz who will graciously continue the Apostolate of Prayer of St Joseph of the Eternal Family and the Cenacle & Divine Mercy Chaplet Prayer Meeting in her Ashtonfield home. (see details below)

Worship & Prayer opportunities to which everyone is welcome to attend.

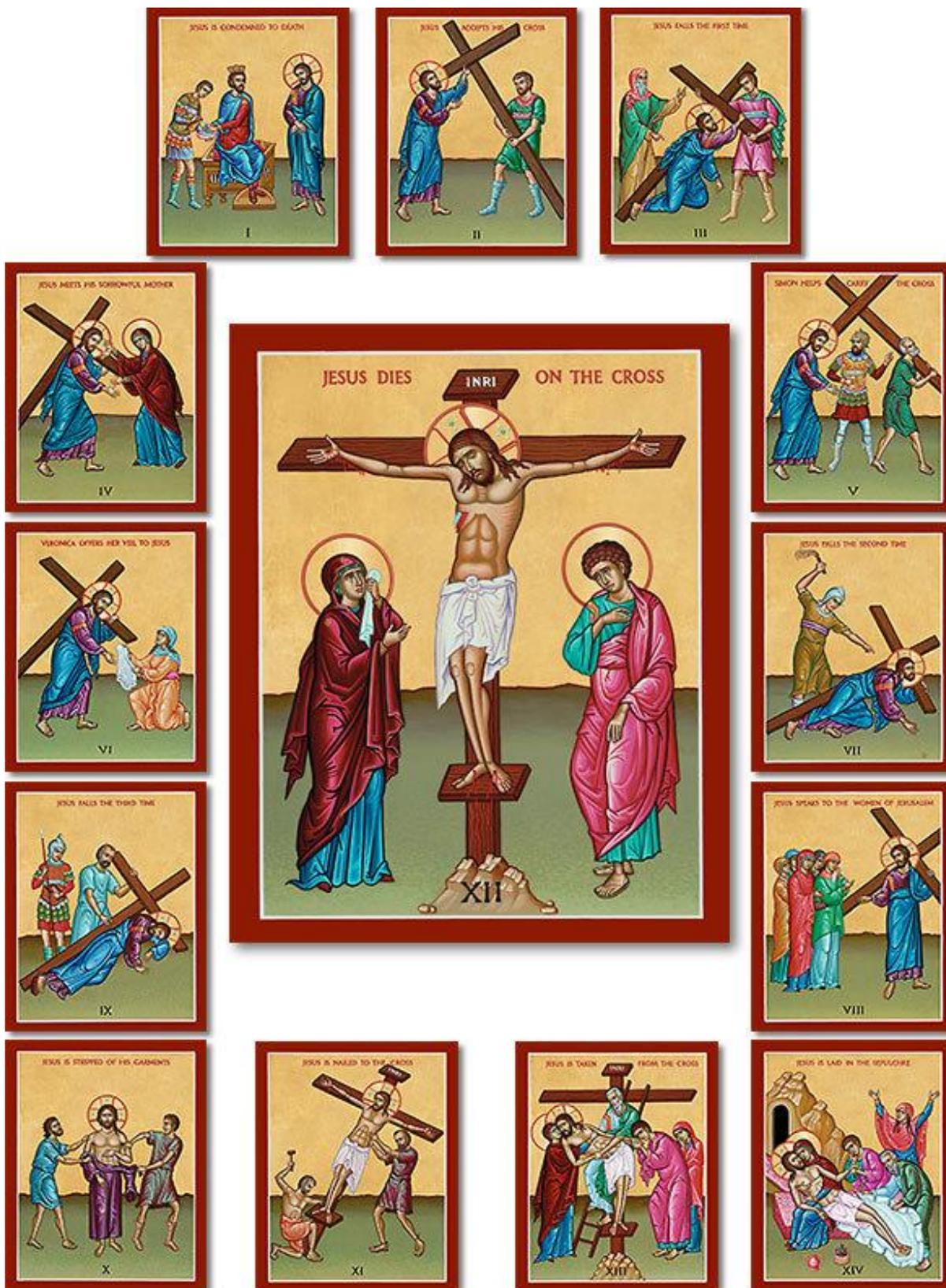
- ✠ **First Friday Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament 6th March** – following 7am Mass.
- ✠ **Anointing Mass** – will be held on the third Tuesday of the month – 17th March (St Patrick’s feast day) at 10.30am in the Therry Centre.
- ✠ **Adoration** – Mondays 12 midday for 1 hour in the church.
- ✠ **Apostolate of Prayer to St Joseph of the Eternal Family** – First Wednesday of each month, 7pm followed by a cup of tea. 2 Erin Close, Ashtonfield. 0449762976
- ✠ **The Marian Movement of Priests Cenacle Rosary to pray for priests** third Wednesday of the month (18th March) at 7pm followed by the Divine Mercy Chaplet and a cup of tea. 2 Erin Close, Ashtonfield. 0449762976.
- ✠ **Legion of Mary** “Our Lady of Perpetual Succour” – Tuesday mornings, 10.30am, 79 Banks St, East Maitland. 4905 2144

Community activities are also available to which everyone is welcome.

- ❖ **St Joseph’s Craft Group** – Monday’s during school term, McAuley Room, 9.30am to 1.00pm. For more information please contact 4933 5840/ 4933 4586 or just come along.
- ❖ **Seniors Social Group for widows singles or divorced** – next outing please contact Barbara 4934 3862.

Parish News - St Joseph's East Maitland

- ❖ **East Maitland Catholic Women's League** – meet first Thursday of the month at 2pm in the Therry Centre. Enquires: Mary Kearney 4930 0863.
- ❖ **The Library** – Spiritual books available for loan to parishioners – located in prayer/baby room at right of church.
- ❖ **St Vincent de Paul Society- Day Conference** meets fortnightly on Wednesday mornings (9.30-11am) in the Catherine McAuley Room. **Night Conference** meets weekly on Wednesdays at 6pm in the Catherine McAuley room. The Society is always in need of new members.



The Stations of the Cross are a 14-step Catholic devotion that commemorates Jesus Christ's last day on Earth as a man. The 14 devotions, or stations, focus on specific events of His last day, beginning with His condemnation. The stations are commonly used as a mini pilgrimage as the individual moves from station to station. At each station, the individual recalls and meditates on a specific event from Christ's last day. Specific prayers are recited, then the individual moves to the next station until all 14 are complete. The Stations of the Cross are commonly found in churches as a series of 14 small icons or images. They can also appear in church yards arranged along paths. The stations are most commonly prayed during Lent on Wednesdays and Fridays, and especially on Good Friday, the day of the year upon which the events actually occurred.

Parish News - Maitland: (Sacred Heart Campbell's Hill - Holy Family Largs - St Columba's Paterson)

Sacred Heart, Campbell's Hill

Lent has surely crept up on us this year. Fr John Lovell will be our Celebrant for the Triduum this year.

This will be Father John's first solo Triduum and we look forward to celebrating this occasion with the Communities of Paterson, Largs, Lochinvar and Rutherford.

We are asking all those communities to participate in the Ministries, putting their names forward to make these Ceremonies a combined success.

Please put your thinking caps on and volunteer so we are all celebrating this wonderful time of our Church year.

7pm Wednesday evenings - Holy Family Youth Mass

Parish Team meets on the fourth Tuesday of the month. All welcome.

(Please note there is no Meeting in December or January)

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

CATHOLIC WEEKLY on sale before and after every Mass and only costs \$2.



Parish News - OLOL Beresfield

CIRCLE DANCING: Would you like to join a Circle Dancing Group? Circle dancing is probably the oldest known dance formation and was part of community life from when people first started to dance. Dancing in a circle is an ancient tradition common to many cultures for marking special occasions, rituals, strengthening community and encouraging togetherness.



Please join us in the Parish meeting room on the
1st Saturday of each month from March to October from 11.00am-1.00pm.

NOTE: Circle Dancing begins again on 7th March!! SAVE THE DATES!!

WE WILL MEET ON THE LAST SATURDAY IN JULY (25TH)

NO MEETING IN AUGUST

A member of our Parish will lead us in a very gentle circle dance. To best enjoy this spiritual and meditative activity wear loose and comfortable clothing.

Donation \$10.00 /person / session. Funds raised from this Parish Activity will go to our Special Purpose Account.

We will also enjoy some morning tea together. Tea and coffee will be provided.

Please bring a plate to share. Everyone welcome.

Save the dates:

March 2020	April 2020	May 2020	June 2020	July 2020	August 2020	Sept 2020	Oct 2020
7th	4th	2nd	6th	25th	-	5th	3rd

Parish News - OLOL Beresfield

OUR LADY OF LOURDES CHURCH – SATURDAY MORNING MASS – 21ST MARCH – 9AM:

All parishioners are invited to worship at this Mass.

SACRAMENTS OF INITIATION 2020: 2nd Rite of RECONCILIATION, Our Lady of Lourdes Beresfield, Thursday 19th March, 7pm. This is also the Community Reconciliation in preparation for Easter.

ST BEDE'S WITH OUR LADY OF LOURDES PARISH YEAR 8 ART COMPETITION:



Winners will be announced at the **6.00pm Mass at Our Lady of Lourdes, Beresfield on the 21st March**. Mass will be followed by a BBQ and time to look at the art.

Everyone is warmly invited to join us for fellowship and a BBQ feast.



LENTEN PREPARATION GROUP: Our Lenten preparation group will meet **each Tuesday at 9.30am during Lent commencing on Tuesday 3rd March**. The program, entitled 'The Joy of Hope', is a video by David Payne and is one of the Catholic Faith Education Series. See the bulletin for further details.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS: Our Lady of Lourdes Church, Friday, 6th 13th 27th March and 3rd April at 6pm.

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT FRIDAY MARCH 20TH: ACTiv8 Youth Ministry invite you to Join with them for *Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, music and prayer, at Our Lady of Lourdes church Beresfield on Friday March 20th, 6.00pm-7.00pm*. The night is designed to foster profound peace and stillness in the perfect atmosphere for God's love and mercy to flow and help us grow and be transformed. Refreshments in the meeting room will follow. All Welcome.

REFUNDABLE CANS / BOTTLES. Three wheelie bins are located outside the entrance of the church – at Mass times only. **Refundable type cans or bottles ONLY** (rinsed out first please) should be placed in the appropriately labelled bin, one bin for cans and one for bottles. **Important! Do not crush the cans and do not remove or damage bottle labels.** The collected cans and bottles will be taken to the recycle refund collection station and the refund deposited into our Special Purpose Account.

OLOL LENDING LIBRARY OF SPIRITUAL BOOKS: Books of this kind are not always readily available, so this is an opportunity for any parishioners to have easy access to material which can satisfy curiosity and enrich understanding and appreciation of our shared faith. The books are available at the front of the Church on Saturday nights before and after Mass.

BERESFIELD PARISH MID-WEEK MASS is celebrated at OLOL Tarro on the first Wednesday of each month during school term. Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Primary School Tarro invite you to attend the **Catholic Schools Week Celebration on Wednesday 8th March. Mass at 9.30am**, followed by Morning Tea & Open Classrooms.



The Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes, 11th February 2020 was certainly a memorable day for our school! We began with the Launch of our Vision and Mission statements where four Sisters of Mercy brought our new Mercy cross to the Sacred Space (Sr Paula Redgrove, who taught here in 1954, was part of the group). This was followed by our Opening Mass and induction of leaders. At 6.30pm, staff members and representatives of the student leaders and their families joined the Diocesan education community at the annual *Called to Serve* Mass.

At this Mass Kathryn Stuart was acknowledged for her twenty-five years of service to Catholic education, Karen Tucker received the Emmaus Award for School Support and the BIG Award of the night, the 2019 Community Award, was presented to Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Primary School TARRO! There is no doubt that this Award is an honour and absolutely deserved! **CONGRATULATIONS and THANK YOU EVERYONE!!! Cheryl Henderson**

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER 2020 – BERESFIELD / TARRO. Parishioners are invited to join together with the churches of our area to celebrate World Day of Prayer 2020 at **The Baptist Church, 150 Anderson Drive, BERESFIELD, 10.00am, Friday 6th March**. Refreshments will follow in the hall.

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.

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 participate.

LADIES SOCIAL GROUP: The ladies group meet on an informal basis on the 4th Tuesday of each month from February to November. The next meeting will be on **Tuesday 24th March 2020 at 10.00am** in the Parish meeting room. You are warmly invited to join us.

PARISH PASTORAL TEAM MEETING: Next meeting - **Tuesday 10th March, in the Parish Meeting room, at 7.00pm**. All parishioners welcome.

Parish News - St Paul's Rutherford

COLLEEN CANNY REPORTING FEBRUARY 2020

The year of 2020, commenced at St Paul's Rutherford with many of our children and families returning from holidays.

Looking at the photos with our kindergarten little faces it really seems only a short period of time since our Year Seven's commenced their schooling. The buddy system continues with Year Six supporting our new starters, a nice gesture for our kindergarten students.



Mrs Mullins, our new Acting Principal I imagine has a very busy year ahead. She will be supported by Mr Paul Toomey, the Acting Assistant Principal. There are some new appointments this year, including Mrs Emma Cagney appointed as a Learning Support Teacher and Stephanie Wilson, the Aboriginal Education Teacher.

We are pleased to see a new group of Mini Vinnie's to be presented to the Parish at the 8am Mass at St Paul's, on the 1st March 2020. Our Parishioners are always pleased to see the children.

The school has introduced a reading buddy group, Year 3, joining Year 1 to read their favourite books, a nice occasion to share friendship.

Some further great news: three artworks will be displayed, from St Paul's Primary School at the Maitland Art Gallery, the official opening Saturday 29th February - well done!

This article I would like to include two ladies who really are the HUB of the school at Saint Paul's Primary School in administration Sharon and Paula have been described by the school simply amazing administrators. Sharon has been working at Saint Paul's since 1999. Paula since 2016. Their role includes first aid, school and financial administration. They play a major part in the general health and wellbeing of the students. They are totally aware of the names of all the students, and parents. They are very connected with all of the school activities. I ended the visit with the question, "do you like your school role?" the answer was, "we love our job". The school is very blessed to have these two ladies who so committed to their work.



We were blessed to have Father Arnold celebrate our Australia Day Mass, commencing with our national anthem 'Advance Australian Fair'. We had an Appeal for the fires to so many people who have been affected by this disaster. Peter Eagleton our conference President of the St Vincent de Paul, Rutherford, spoke reassuring our parishioners that our funds were being carefully monitored and definitely reaching the people in need. The morning followed with our monthly morning tea, always popular not only for the spread of beautiful food, but to catch up with conversation, and sharing Christmas news.



Gabby has arranged a children's activity sheet based on the Sunday Gospel for our St Paul's children attending Mass. This appears to be very popular with our children.



Our parish is hoping to commence our visitation to our isolated unwell and frail parishioners during this year. We realised how much joy it gave during our Christmas visitation, many of these people have given much to the parish over the previous years.

Parish News - St Paul's Rutherford

Very sadly we have been informed that Patricia and Adrian Bannister are retiring from their church duties. They have given so much to the Parish over many years, and they will be very much missed within the congregation. Gemma and Michael Stace will continue in their place as Sacristans, which will include being in charge of the Sacristy and its contents.

Please watch this space for our next Season Gathering.

Parish News - St Patrick's Lochinvar

LOCHINVAR PARISH LENTEN PROGRAM

Lochinvar Parish invites you to be a part of our weekly Lenten gatherings based on the **BE OPENED** Lenten program. **EACH WEDNESDAY 7pm - 8.30pm**. Gathering to be held in St Patrick's Church Lochinvar. For more information please contact: 0438 307 460

STATE SCHOOL SPECIAL RELIGIOUS EDUCATION will be commencing in Lochinvar towards the end of February on a Wednesday morning 11:20am – 12:40. If you feel you would like to assist with the classes please phone Zofia 0438 307460.

Parish News - Immaculate Conception Morpeth

On Sunday 2nd February we celebrated the anniversary of the dedication of our Church with a special blessing on those in attendance. It was an opportunity to reflect on past parishioners who contributed so generously to the building and upkeep of the Church since it was built over one hundred years ago. In the afternoon a group of Cinema enthusiasts met at Scotty's in Raymond Terrace to see the movie "A BEAUTIFUL day in the NEIGHBOURHOOD". A great way to spend a hot afternoon in air-conditioned comfort being entertained; a movie well worth seeing.

On Sunday 16th February we held our first Community breakfast for 2020 which once again was a roaring success with the usual high standard of delicious and tasty dishes from which to choose. It was wonderful that Fr. Paul could join us before heading off to Paterson for the 9.30am Mass.

As we enter the season of Lent all are invited to participate in the Stations of the Cross which will be held each Friday commencing at 10.00am. Disappointingly, as a community we can no longer celebrate in our Church, the Passion of Christ at 3pm on Good Friday, which for the past twenty years has been conducted by either a Deacon or lay-led. This is no longer permissible as the Liturgy must now be celebrated by a priest as part of the Triduum. Nevertheless, we will continue to hold the Stations of the Cross at **10.00am**. All are encouraged to attend and mark this as a community coming together to remember the pain and suffering of Jesus for our sake. There will be opportunities for those wishing to attend the celebration of the Passion of Christ at **3.00pm** in any one of the three nominated Churches celebrating the Triduum within the Region.

On Friday 6th March all are invited to celebrate the "World Day of Prayer" which this year will be held in the Uniting Church, 98 High Street commencing at 10.00am.

Don't forget to check your copy of upcoming events in the Community and Spiritual Life calendar for 2020!

Who Is Fr Rob?

Fr Rob is an ordained Catholic Priest and is currently serving in Sandhurst Diocese, Victoria after moving to Australia from Malta, his home country. He is a singer songwriter with an international fan base. Apart from a series of recordings and CD releases, Fr Rob has also written a number of songs for various campaigns and international conferences.

He and his team currently minister to over 400, 000 young people each year, carrying Christ's message of hope and relationship with Jesus to all they encounter. Fr Rob's passion is to draw others to the heart of God. He believes that music is an important instrument in helping people understand the need for intimacy with God. Fr Rob has released seven music projects to date. In all this, whilst greatly appreciating his gift of music, he recognises that before everything he is a follower of Christ, a priest and only then, a musician.

Fr Rob Galea Visit to Maitland

The FRG Ministry team visits secondary schools around Australia and internationally. The purpose of these visits is to share the Good News in a relevant and meaningful way.

Fr Rob travels with a full band, made up of qualified teachers and professional musicians who also specialise in performance, testimony and worship. The FRG team have toured with him nationally and internationally and also passionately support the work of the Church, especially in seeing young people growing in their walk with God.

On the 31st March - 1st April we will be blessed to have Fr Rob Galea visit our region.

He will run sessions with all students over 2 days from All Saints Collage Maitland and Year 9 From St Bede's Catholic College Chisholm. Fr Rob will share stories and songs about his experiences and how to build a relationship with God. It will be a wonderful experience for the students and staff in our schools to listen and join with him in prayer and song.

On Tuesday evening 31st March ACTiv8 Youth will be hosting a very special concert with Fr Rob at All Saints Collage St Marys Campus Hall.

This is a very rare and wonderful experience that people of all ages can come along to.

Join us and be inspired by his uplifting music and prayer.

Tickets are just \$13 for this event. How to purchase?

Visit www.eventbrite.com.au. Search – ACTiv8 concert with Fr. Rob Galea. Click on the link and follow the prompts. If you are not able to purchase online contact Bec Piefke – 0422500429

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ACTIV8 YOUTH MINISTRY 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.

Mondays Rutherford – 6pm Junior Youth Group, 7.30pm LOW

Tuesdays East Maitland – 5.30pm Junior Youth Group, 7pm Youth Mass

Wednesdays Largs – 5.30pm Junior Youth Group, 7pm Youth Mass



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