



Maitland Parishes of the Chisholm Pastoral Region

Communities Gathering
in Prayer and Worship

All Masses are suspended until further notice

ST JOSEPH'S (Est 1835)

Cnr King St & New England Hwy
EAST MAITLAND

ST JOHN THE BAPTIST (Est 1841) 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

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,

Fr Michael Kelly SJ

(Presbytery 4934 5783)

Support Clergy

Fr Maurie Cahill, Fr Lex Levey,

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

Family Ministry Co-ordinator, Hunter Deanery

Lucy Sneesby-Tooth 0417 773 444

Regional Office

OPENING TUESDAY 2ND JUNE 2020, with restrictions. See notices.

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 MONDAYS

Ph: 4933 8918 / Fax: 4934 1227

E:chisholm@mn.catholic.org.au

CHISOLM CONNECTION MAY/JUN 2020

Inside you will find:

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BULLETIN FOR PENTECOST SUNDAY YEAR A, 31st May, 2020

First Reading

Acts 2:1-11 They were all filled with the Holy Spirit, and began to speak different languages.

When Pentecost day came round, the apostles had all met in one room, when suddenly they heard what sounded like a powerful wind from heaven, the noise of which filled the entire house in which they were sitting; and something appeared to them that seemed like tongues of fire; these separated and came to rest on the head of each of them. They were all filled with the Holy Spirit, and began to speak foreign languages as the Spirit gave them the gift of speech.

Now there were devout men living in Jerusalem from every nation under heaven, and at this sound they all assembled, each one bewildered to hear these men speaking his own language. They were amazed and astonished. 'Surely' they said 'all these men speaking are Galileans? How does it happen that each of us hears them in his own native language? Parthians, Medes and Elamites; people from Mesopotamia, Judaea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya round Cyrene; as well as visitors from Rome - Jews and proselytes alike - Cretans and Arabs; we hear them preaching in our own language about the marvels of God.'

Resp. Psalm (R.) Lord, send out your Spirit and renew the face of the earth.

Bless the Lord, my soul! Lord God, how great you are, How many are your works, O Lord! The earth is full of your riches. (R.)

You take back your spirit, they die, returning to the dust from which they came. You send forth your spirit, they are created; and you renew the face of the earth. (R.)

May the glory of the Lord last for ever! May the Lord rejoice in his works! May my thoughts be pleasing to him. I find my joy in the Lord. (R.)

Second Reading

1 Cor 12:3-7, 12-13 In the one Spirit we were all baptised, making one body.

No one can say, 'Jesus is Lord' unless he is under the influence of the Holy Spirit. There is a variety of gifts but always the same Spirit; there are all sorts of service to be done, but always to the same Lord; working in all sorts of different ways in different people, it is the same God who is working in all of them. The particular way in which the Spirit is given to each person is for a good purpose.

Just as a human body, though it is made up of many parts, is a single unit because all these parts, though many, make one body, so it is with Christ. In the one Spirit we were all baptised, Jews as well as Greeks, slaves as well

as citizens, and one Spirit was given to us all to drink.

Sequence

Holy Spirit, Lord of light,
From the clear celestial height
Thy pure beaming radiance give.
Come, thou Father of the poor,
Come with treasures which endure;
Come, thou light of all that live!
Thou, of all consolers best,
Thou, the soul's delightful guest,
Dost refreshing peace bestow;
Thou in toil art comfort sweet;
Pleasant coolness in the heat;
Solace in the midst of woe.
Light immortal, light divine,
Visit thou these hearts of thine,
And our inmost being fill:
If thou take thy grace away,
Nothing pure in man will stay;
All his good is turned to ill.
Heal our wounds, our strength renew;
On our dryness pour thy dew;
Wash the stains of guilt away:
Bend the stubborn heart and will;
Melt the frozen, warm the chill;
Guide the steps that go astray.
Thou, on us who evermore
Thee confess and thee adore,
With thy sevenfold gifts descend:
Give us comfort when we die;
Give us life with thee on high;
Give us joys that never end.

Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia!

Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful and kindle in them the fire of your love. **Alleluia!**

Gospel

Jn 20:19-23 As the Father sent me, so I send you: Receive the Holy Spirit.

In the evening of the first day of the week, the doors were closed in the room where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews. Jesus came and stood among them. He said to them, 'Peace be with you', and showed them his hands and his side. The disciples were filled with joy when they saw the Lord, and he said to them again, 'Peace be with you.

'As the Father sent me, so am I sending you.'

After saying this he breathed on them and said: 'Receive the Holy Spirit. For those whose sins you forgive, they are forgiven: for those whose sins you retain, they are retained.'



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Homily - Pentecost Sunday.....by Fr Mick

Of all the writers in the New Testament, Luke is the most graphic. His Gospel is chock full of memorable scenes and stories. Who can ever forget the story of the Prodigal Son which is really the story of the provident father? It's unique to Luke.

It's the same when it comes to Luke's graphic account of the coming of the Holy Spirit to a frightened group hiding behind locked doors. It's done with noise and tumult that is described fully and then the outcome is painted in vivid terms – shots of flame above everyone's head to signify the arrival of light and life.

But notice how it happens. It's not a consuming conflagration like the sorts we see in summer bushfires. It's the appearance of a flame that is as specific as it is individual. And that tells us all we need to know about how the Spirit comes among us which Luke, again graphically, describes as the telling of the story of Jesus in language that isn't an "official language" delivering an "official text".

It's a message that comes just where people are - in all their diversity yet bound together by what becomes their Spirit inspired common understanding.

Today we celebrate the birthday of the Church. John's Gospel does this feast of Pentecost very differently to Luke: Jesus breathes the Spirit on his followers.

But put John, Luke and then Paul in the second reading today all together and we have a fuller account of the significance of Pentecost: the creation of a community that is variously talented, blessed with a diversity of skills and capacities and certainly with the makings of conflict and division in their hands already as they come from such diverse backgrounds and places.

They could end up scratching each others' eyes out if they didn't have one more thing in common – the mission they share that is entrusted to them by Jesus and powered by the spirit to share and spread the Good News and be of service to others in their need.



We pray for

All Recently Deceased

Maria Teresa Anderson, 'Jim' James William O'Neill, Myrell Mary Suters

Anniversaries

Noel Anlezark, Colin Bowd, Sr Agatha Bussell, Most Rev Leo Clarke, Rev Cornelius Coghlan OP, Leonora Cormick, Peter Cotter, Christine Crebert, Harold Doherty (Jnr), Sr Baptist Dugan, Garry Dunn, Very Rev Gerard Flatley, Rev Thomas James Kennedy CSsR, Rev Bernard McCosker, Pat McGilvray, Rev John McEneaney, Jadwiga (Vicky) Nowik, Sr Declan O'Brien, Rev John O'Carroll, Sr Rose Philson

Having returned to the Father, may they rest in peace.

the Sick

Charlotte Ayers, Jeanette Bailey, Rosario Bugna, Monique Bull, Margaret Camps, Stephen Carrall, Sr Catherine Mary Carroll rsj, Margaret Cook, Marion & Luke Crotty, Sharon S. Cuevas, Samuel Edmonds, Bridgid Field, Anthony Fitzpatrick, Michael Flores, Pam French, Amanda Gordon, Col Green, Julie Gurr, Sarah Hamilton, Anne Hardy, Peter Hardy, Ken Hartup, John Hickey, Lachlan Hill, Grace Holzhauser, Paul Hurney, Cathy Ann Hutchen, Mavis Jarrett (Parkes), Kevin Johns, Paul Johns, Ken Jones, Terry Kauter, Krystyna Kulczynski, Brian Lang OAM, Bernard Larcombe, Richard Lee, Eileen Leonard, Michael Lockyer, Shane McCarthy, Marie McGrath, Annette Mitchell, Cindy Mulvey, Poasa Nili, Aidan O'Neill, Dominic Punch, Pauline Randall, Margaret Sipple, Steven Small, Anne Standing, Margaret Sullivan, Thomas Sullivan, Jan (John) Szczudluk, Ron Taylor, Bill Temperley, Robert Threlfo, Mo Toleafoa, Jo Winkler

Rite of Christian Initiation Adults (RCIA) Catechumens & Candidates

Brooke Boughton, Christine Brown, Katrina Easton, Tomara Brown, Richelle Lloyd, Meg Martin, Troy McWha, Nicole Murphy, Belinda Pearson, Ron Perkins, Elliott Plank, Drew Reid, Nigel Richardson

Pentecost Sunday.....Universal Prayers

Celebrant: We On this Pentecost feast we call upon You our Eternal Father through our prayers to send the Holy Spirit to renew the face of the earth and inspire all Your people, just as the Apostles were inspired on that first day of Pentecost.

Prayer Leader:

We pray for Bishop Bill and the Priests of our dioceses, that they, be empowered by the Holy Spirit to bring the Gospel alive in the hearts of God's people and renew the knowledge of the true presence of God in our lives. In Faith we pray. **Lord hear our prayer**

Loving Father, we know You are, The One True and Only God and You hear all prayers addressed to You. Others pray in different language and ways. We ask You to listen to all Your family here on this earth and bring Reconciliation and Unity to all religions. In Faith we pray. **Lord hear our prayer**

Even though we cannot all gather together in our churches, to worship You, our Almighty God, we ask You to keep us together in prayer as we travel through this troubled time. Give special Graces those who are in most need, giving them courage to keep their Faith alive in their hearts and homes. In Faith we pray. **Lord hear our prayer**

For all our brothers & sisters who have lost faith and no longer give you worship O God: May the Holy Spirit of Pentecost rekindle in them the flame of Your Love and Truth. In Faith we pray. **Lord hear our prayer**

Watch over those who are returning to work and school, that they abide by the guidelines set out to keep everyone safe from infection, give them the wisdom to treat others with respect and dignity to Love their neighbour as Jesus asked. In Faith we pray. **Lord hear our prayer**

We pray for the Health Care workers who are working up front with this virus, our Government authorities and all who are caring for our Society that they be guided by the Holy Spirit, who speaks all languages. In Faith we pray. **Lord hear our prayer**

We pray for the Catechumens and Candidates in the RCIA group and those in the Sacramental groups: may the Holy Spirit of Pentecost give them strength in their prayer life and the knowledge that God truly loves them. In Faith we pray. **Lord hear our prayer**

We ask the Holy Spirit of Pentecost to enlighten those who are working on a vaccine for the Covid-19 virus, keep them in a safe environment and help them find a solution to make our world a peaceful place once more. In Faith we pray. **Lord hear our prayer**

We pray for the elderly and those who are isolated and lonely, those who are not well, may they feel our prayers for them, to give them comfort, and know, that they are not alone as the Spirit of Jesus walks with them always. In Faith we pray. **Lord hear our prayer**

We pray for all who have been parted from us by death: May they enter the new Jerusalem, the city radiant with the light of the Lamb of God, especially those who have died recently, especially Maria Teresa Anderson, 'Jim' James William O'Neill, and Myrell Mary Suters and those who have died from the Covid-19 virus. In Faith we pray. **Lord hear our prayer**

Celebrant: Father, we accept the word of Jesus into our hearts, and have hope in the life of His promise. And with trust we ask you these things, through the same Christ Jesus, who is Lord, for ever & ever.



A PRAYER FOR SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

*My Jesus, I believe that you are present in the Most Holy Sacrament.
I love you above all things and I desire to receive you in my soul.
Since I cannot at this moment receive you sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart.
I embrace you as if you were already there and unite myself wholly to you.
Never permit me to be separated from you. AMEN.*

CHISHOLM REGIONAL OFFICE OPENING

As restrictions abate, the opening of the regional office will take place on Tuesday 2nd June 2020, BUT, with some restrictions. We ask that these restrictions are respected and adhered to, so we can all be kept safe and protected from the virus:

- **ONE person in the reception area at a time**
- **to protect our office volunteers, we are still asking that they stay at home**
- **IF you require a meeting with anyone in the office, please phone ahead to book an appointment**

Even though we have cut costs i.e. contract cleaners, please be assured that office staff are maintaining cleaning protocols to a high standard.

WEEKLY BULLETIN/CHISHOLM CONNECTION: If you wish an anniversary/notice/article to be placed, OR you wish to be added to our distribution list, please advise before 10am WEDNESDAY.

May God bless and protect you. PHONE: 4933 8918 / EMAIL: chisholm@mn.catholic.org.au

Home Liturgy structure for small groups - Pentecost

1. Sign of the Cross to begin with
2. Recognition we are in God's presence and ask for his healing mercy
3. For anything that stands between us and a deeper love of God, we say together: Lord have mercy, Christ have mercy, Lord have mercy
4. Prayer: May almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us our sins and bring us to life everlasting
5. Opening prayer for Ascension Sunday: Loving God, in this feast we celebrate the end of your vivid presence to the earliest Christian and the dawn of a new age which we will celebrate next Sunday at Pentecost. Be near us now and always that we may respond to your invitation to preach your Good News in all we say and do everyday.

FIRST READING ACTS 1:1-11

In the first book, Theophilus, I dealt with all that Jesus did and taught until the day he was taken up, after giving instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom he had chosen. He presented himself alive to them by many proofs after he had suffered, appearing to them during forty days and speaking about the kingdom of God.

While meeting with them, he enjoined them not to depart from Jerusalem, but to wait for "the promise of the Father about which you have heard me speak; for John baptized with water, but in a few days you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit."

When they had gathered together they asked him, "Lord, are you at this time going to restore the kingdom to Israel?"

He answered them, "It is not for you to know the times or seasons that the Father has established by his own authority.

But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, throughout Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."

When he had said this, as they were looking on, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him from their sight.

While they were looking intently at the sky as he was going, suddenly two men dressed in white garments stood beside them.

They said, "Men of Galilee, why are you standing there looking at the sky? This Jesus who has been taken up from you into heaven will return in the same way as you have seen him going into heaven."

Resp. Psalm R. God mounts his throne to shouts of joy: a blare of trumpets for the Lord.

All you peoples, clap your hands, shout to God with cries of gladness, For the LORD, the Most High, the awesome, is the great king over all the earth. **R.** God mounts his throne amid shouts of joy; the LORD, amid trumpet blasts. Sing praise to God, sing praise; sing praise to our King, sing praise. **R.**

For king of all the earth is God; sing hymns of praise. God reigns over the nations, God sits upon his holy throne. **R.**

SECOND READING EPH 1:17-23

Brothers and sisters:

May the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, give you a Spirit of wisdom and revelation resulting in knowledge of him.

May the eyes of your hearts be enlightened, that you may know what is the hope that belongs to his call, what are the riches of glory in his inheritance among the holy ones, and what is the surpassing greatness of his power for us who believe, in accord with the exercise of his great might, which he worked in Christ, raising him from the dead and seating him at his right hand in the heavens, far above every principality, authority, power, and dominion, and every name that is named not only in this age but also in the one to come.

And he put all things beneath his feet and gave him as head over all things to the church, which is his body, the fullness of the one who fills all things in every way.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: Alleluia, alleluia.

Go and teach all nations, says the Lord; I am with you always, until the end of the world.

Alleluia, alleluia.

GOSPEL MT 28:16-20

The eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had ordered them.

When they saw him, they worshiped, but they doubted.

Then Jesus approached and said to them, "All power in heaven and on earth has been given to me.

Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you.

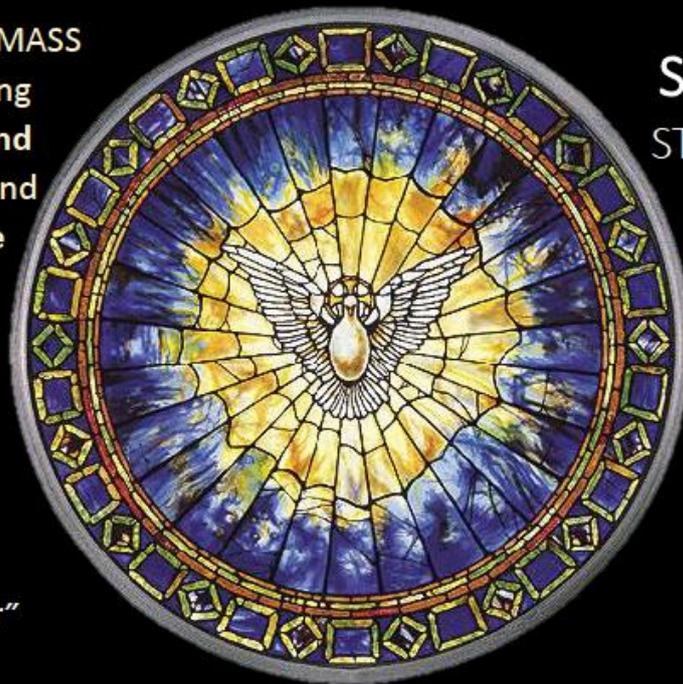
And behold, I am with you always, until the end of the age."

*Homily as offered by Fr Michael Kelly SJ
on page 2*

ACTiv8 PRAYER PENTECOST

The Sunday YOUTH MASS music group is hosting An hour of Prayer and Worship - modern and traditional reflective music featuring ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

"God showered the Holy Spirit on us in profusion through Jesus Christ our saviour"



Sunday 31st May
STREAMED from 6pm



Hosted by the
Chisholm Region ACTiv8
Youth Team

I ADORE YOU, I PRAISE YOU, I LOVE YOU.

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCg8w-eKk52qhWUn0hrmhBHw?view_as=public

NATIONAL RECONCILIATION WEEK (NRW) is commemorated every year to acknowledge the Traditional Owners of this country, to learn more about Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander history and culture, and to celebrate Indigenous culture. The theme of this year's NRW is 'In This Together'. It is a time for all Australians to learn about our shared histories, cultures, and achievements, and to explore how each of us can contribute to achieving reconciliation in Australia.



The dates for NRW remain the same each year; 27 May to 3 June. These dates commemorate two significant milestones in the reconciliation journey - the successful 1967 referendum, and the High Court Mabo decision respectively.

Reconciliation must live in the hearts, minds and actions of all Australians as we move forward, creating a nation strengthened by respectful relationships between the wider Australian community, and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

Message from Fr Paul

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

It has now been over two months since we have gathered in our parish churches for Sunday Masses. We are all missing being with each other and being able to celebrate the Sacraments of our church. This Sunday we celebrate the feast of Pentecost. It is often called *the birthday of the Church*, when many people were baptised in the faith of Jesus Christ. We all need a good dose of the Holy Spirit to help us cope with these challenging times. We are conscious of the many people throughout our world who have lost their lives due to the COVID-19 virus, the grief of their families, the skill and heroism of healthcare workers and many people in the frontlines of dealing with this pandemic.

Though we are sad in not being able to gather in our parish churches for worship, we know that the church building is not the church. The church is the community of the baptised faithful and Jesus lives in the hearts of all believers. During this time we have been challenged to nourish our faith with practices outside of church worship. As restrictions are lifted there is the possibility of small gatherings of the faithful in people's homes. We are allowed to have five visitors in a home respecting social distancing. So there is the possibility that across our parishes we can gather as house churches for worship (in this edition there is an outline how a home liturgy could be celebrated). We remember that Jesus said "where two or three are gathered in My name, there am I in their midst". At present that two or three can be stretched to five.

Step One of the easing of restrictions by the NSW Government on the 22nd May said that a church service could be held with no more than 10 people. Bishop Bill has decided that due to this restriction, we will continue to not hold public Masses in our churches. On the 21st May our regional pastoral council and some representatives of our parish pastoral teams had a Zoom meeting (on computer) to discuss our response to Step One of the easing of restrictions. Each parish pastoral team was going to discuss what they might do in their church. As we receive feedback from our teams we will publish their directives for their community. If we open our parish churches for private prayer, there are conditions for doing this. This includes keeping a record of the name, phone number and email contact of anyone who visits the church at that time. No more than 10 people can be in a church at one time (an exception is made for funerals where up to 20 family members can attend). Also it is required that the parish priest or his delegate be in the church to supervise the number of people while it is open. Afterwards the church needs to be cleaned and sanitised. All these provisions are for the health and wellbeing of our parishioners. We are conscious that many of our worshipping parishioners belong to the vulnerable age group and it is safer for them to remain at home.

So let's continue to find ways to celebrate our faith and nourish it, we ask that the gift of the Holy Spirit that lives within us will strengthen us and show us ways to live our Christian faith within our families. Once again we remind you that there are ways of attending Mass online or watching a TV Mass.

Today (Friday) we received a memorandum from our Vicar General Fr Andrew Doohan, regarding further easing of COVID-19 related restrictions that directly impact parish life.

This memorandum is attached.

So we look forward to the time when we can gather again in our communities and in the mean time we pray for the gift of the Holy Spirit to lead us and guide us.

Happy Pentecost!

With love
Fr Paul



In Time of Temptation - Fr Michael Kelly SJ

The one thing the pandemic gives us apart from a disease is plenty of time and a lot of it on our own. And that allows us to remember when things were better and when they were worse.

An easing of some restrictions has begun. But if past pandemics are anything to go by, the release could be short lived and a recrudescence of the virus in places deemed "clean and safe" could follow and the restrictions return. There will be no definitive closure on restrictions till we have an effective vaccine at our disposal.

And even then, the Virus will still be with us, just not easily transferred or as lethal.

Few believe that the new phase we are entering will mean a quick return to "business as usual". The return "good old days" is an escape by memory that in these days is a sorry temptation. By and large, it's a fake remedy for a current affliction.

We will still have lots of time just living with ourselves and that is always a challenge when it continues for an indefinite time. Ask any refugees trapped in a camp!

For those of us not harassed by jailers and gatekeepers, it can be a time for smelling the roses for the first time in a long while. But it's also a time when just what Jesus is portrayed as enduring in the Temptations in Matthew's Gospel will have features in common with what we go through.

Jesus is portrayed as going into the desert. He's not just there for the fresh air and sunshine before taking on his public ministry.

The desert is the place where defenses are down and Jesus is vulnerable to the attack of demons. Desert experiences like the one we are all in with the restrictions of COVID 19 are likely to put us all in a place where the demons have their way with us.

The recurrent reports of depression, domestic conflict and a rise in alcohol consumption across Australia are consistent with the way demons attack us. We become disgruntled in our powerlessness to do things we take for granted, step back in our annoyance, recognise our impotence and, in the absence of someone to blame, let go at ourselves, blaming ourselves for the annoyance and discouragement we may feel.

That sort of self-blame is the first step to depression.

The circumstances are not unlike the temptation Jesus has when offered the opportunity to grasp omnipotence, courtesy of his tempter.

What does he do? He puts his circumstances and prospects in God's hands.

The other two temptations are variations on that theme and they all appeal to our most basic instincts driving us to be in charge of our destiny in defiance of what we know in our heart of hearts.

We actually don't and can't make all the rules. Yes, we can respond to opportunities and we should. But there are things that happen in our lives that are beyond our determination. Being constrained by a lethal virus – for our wellbeing and that of our fellow human beings – is one such circumstance beyond our control.

Jesus is invited to join forces with the Tempter and believes he can overcome the adversity of his circumstances all on his own. After all, the Tempter passes himself off as master of the universe. Why could relief from this oppression not be something the Master of the Universe could end?

"Limit situations" – where we are driven to the limit of what we can cope with or control – are privileged moments for drawing us closer to the God who made us and our world. They shout to us that we are creatures, not the Creator.

To find our way through the frustrations of the day by day limits – named and accepted for what they are – is the challenge all humans face now, some in far more extreme situations than we find ourselves in, here in Australia.

But here or elsewhere, the real invitation is the same and the opportunity is identical: to trust that more will be made of us and our circumstances than our misgivings suggest.





Social and Affordable Housing Program

About the Program:

St Vincent de Paul Housing, in conjunction with the NSW Govt, is building over 500 new low-cost Rental Housing homes across Sydney and regional NSW as part of the Social and Affordable Housing Fund (SAHF) program.

- Rents for these homes are much lower than private market rents.
- The Program aims to assist tenants and their family members to achieve better life outcomes.

What the program does:

The St Vincent de Paul Housing SAHF program offers tenants specific support services.

- Tenants are offered long term leases – leases are 12 months and renewed every year
- Dwellings are all located close to community services and transport.
- All homes are designed to 7 Star Energy and Silver Level accessibility standards.
- Tenants and household members are supported with tailored support coordination plans individualised to assist tenants to achieve their goals and aspirations.
- Tenants are further supported by Vinnies Conference members and volunteers.

Eligibility:

Eligibility for these dwellings is means tested, and provides the opportunity for those unable to meet market rent, to lease these dwellings at an affordable cost.

Current Status / Update as at May 2020:

St Vincent de Paul Society is presently financing and coordinating the construction of 500 new units throughout NSW. To date, 270 have been completed. Units in Cardiff and Maitland are due for completion in coming months. All 500 units are due to be completed by the end of the year.

It is expected that the 17 Maitland units, situated on the corner of High Street and Ward Street, will be available for occupancy in July.

In these very uncertain times, we trust that the provision of housing, both locally and throughout regional NSW, makes some contribution to the plight of those who find it a struggle to put a roof over their heads.

Michael Healy
President
Lower Hunter Region

STUDENT PRAYER

Father of Light and Wisdom,

Thank you for giving me a mind that can know and a heart that can love.
Help me to keep learning every day of my life -- no matter what the subject may be.
Let me be convinced that all knowledge leads to you and let me know how to find
you and love you in all the things you have made.

Encourage me when the studies are difficult and when I am tempted to give up.
Enlighten me when my brain is slow and help me to grasp the truth held out to me.
Grant me the grace to put my knowledge to use in building the kingdom of God on
earth so that I may enter the kingdom of God in heaven.

Amen.

Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults - RCIA

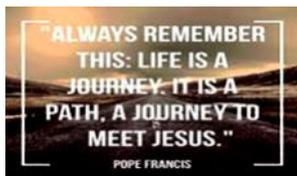


Firstly, as you would be aware, due to the COVID-19 restrictions, the journey to full Initiation into our Catholic faith at Easter has been postponed for our current group of Journeyers.

Normally, throughout the Season of Easter to Pentecost Sunday (their final RCIA meeting) the Neophytes i.e. new Catholics would be learning more about living a Catholic life within the parish and the broader communities.

As expected it was a huge disappointment to them after months of preparation and expectation.

For this very reason they all need the vital support from the parishioners even more during this ongoing delay to their full initiation. So, please continue to keep them in your thoughts and prayers until we can gather again to have their Sacraments of Initiation completed.



Just a reminder, the unbaptised (Catechumen) attended the Rite of Election at the Cathedral on 1st of March, prior to the closure of our churches. From then they become known as "The Elect". They are:

Immaculate Conception Morpeth: Elliott Plank
St Joseph's East Maitland: Tomara Brown, Troy McWha, Ron Perkins, Meg Martin, Belinda Pearson

Also, together with these un-baptised travelling on their sacramental journey are those people who have been baptised previously in other Christian faith traditions. They are known as Candidates (for full Communion into the Catholic Church). They are:

Sacred Heart Campbell's Hill: Richelle Lloyd
Our Lady Of Lourdes Beresfield: Nigel Richardson

St Joseph's East Maitland: Brooke Boughton, Nicole Murphy, Drew Reid, Katrina Easton, Christine Brown
In the meantime, the RCIA team are continuing to keep in contact with them and their sponsors and support people. The team are providing the various resources and opportunities available such as on line liturgies, prayers, reflections and other links as they come available.



As we have a new Paschal Candle, may we take time to reflect on the Mystery of our Faith and wait with joyful expectation with our Elect and Candidates.

May the Holy Spirit lead us during this present uncertainty in the hope that we can soon be together once again in person.

VINNIES COVID-19 WINTER APPEAL

Over the next four weeks All Saints' College will be collecting again for the St Vincent de Paul Winter Appeal.



This year renamed the COVID-19 Winter Appeal, Vinnies will be seeking to assist all those in our local community who are in need during these colder months of the year.

The COVID-19 pandemic has created a greater urgency for assistance with many people suddenly unemployed and disconnected from family and friends.

Items in need are blankets, good quality 2nd hand warm clothing and tinned food (especially soups). As conveyed by the local Vinnie's coordinator, Sr Denise OP, *'all donations will be greatly appreciated'*.

Baskets will be kept at Reception at both St Mary's and St Peter's campuses for any members of the wider All Saints' College community to drop off items.

Finally, look out for our wonderful senior student leaders, Caitlin, Mackenzie and Tylah, with their appeal on the ASC Facebook page!



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 invited to attend the Youth Mass as a family.

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

BAPTISM ENQUIRIES/BOOKINGS are to be lodged with the Regional Office.
4933 8918 / chisholm@mn.catholic.org.au

Chisholm Connection

Deadline & Distribution Dates 2020

ISSUE	EDITORIAL DEADLINE	DISTRIBUTION DATE
JUNE/JULY	19th June	28th June 2020

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

YOUR VIEWS ARE IMPORTANT TO US

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!

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/about/parish-payments>

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

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."

LITURGICAL RESOURCES - LIVE-STREAM

Live-stream Mass every Sunday at 9.30am

<https://www.mn.catholic.org.au/places/live-stream/>
Mass for you at home on Channel 10 each Sunday at 6am
For all liturgical resources: www.liturgyhelp.com

Some Useful Diocesan Links

[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](#)

Diocesan Social Media Links

[MNnews.today on Facebook](#)
[MNnews.today on Twitter](#)
[CatholicCare on Facebook](#)
[CatholicCare on Twitter](#)

CARITAS BANKING DETAILS

Correct banking details for depositing funds are: BSB 062217 / ACC NO. 10471471 (this indicates it is from our diocese)

If you have banked funds over the past six weeks into BSB 062217, ACC NO. 10072446 please advise the Parish Office the date, amount and your supporter ID number, so we can ensure that the donation to Project Compassion are accurately recorded in their system.

EXTENSION TO SURVEY DEADLINE!

The Chisholm Region Pastoral Council survey designed to help it meet the needs of all during this time has extended the deadline for submission until **Sunday 31st May**.

So far approximately 100 parishioners have responded but we would like more responses from our Mass centres, particularly as the response rate across the centres is not even.

The survey takes approximately **5 minutes**. You can complete online by clicking onto <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/WQ3KF5J>

If you prefer to fill out a paper copy please contact Chisholm parish office on 4933 8918 or at chisholm@mn.catholic.org.au

The Chisholm Region Pastoral Council strongly encourages you to fill out the survey which will help it plan for now and into the future.

What's Happening in the Chisholm Region/Diocese

LIFE AT HOME IN ISOLATION!

Send us your photos: If you are happy to share some photos of your life at home in isolation, maybe doing some of those things that help us keep going: praying, knitting, playing cards, cooking, prayer space etc. please send them through to our office email

Chisholm@mn.catholic.org.au. You can also send in your tips for getting through. Have you got a favourite recipe you could share? A book you've read that you might review for others? A poem? A short story? All elements for keeping together and staying afloat as a Parish family.

MAKING IT REAL ART COMPETITION

The Australian Catholic Bishops' Social Justice Statement *Making it real: Genuine human encounter in our digital world*, affirms the positive possibilities for encounter and solidarity offered by new digital media, while warning of those elements of our digital world that may be harmful. The Statement points out that we are called not just to be inhabitants of this new digital world, but active citizens shaping it.

Artists are invited to create a work based on the themes in the Social Justice Statement. Works must be on A3 paper, with a 150-word artist statement accompanying the work. Entries close Friday 14 August. Exhibition date is Saturday 29 August at San Clemente High School, Mayfield. \$150 prize for each category (Stage 3,4,5,6 and adult). Contact rose.mcallister@mn.catholic.org.au for more information.

A Prayer when one's Baptism must be delayed in this year of the Corona Virus

I know it's not a race or a test of will, Lord.
Yet I feel a bit lost now that the Triduum has ended
and the baptismal waters remain just out of reach.

In this time of waiting, may I receive your grace -
in patience that hopes with all who long to gather at
your table,
in compassion that abides with all aching to embrace
again,
and in mercy that anoints the sorrowing with the
promise of joy's return.

Let me be alert to the opportunities each day
to fall more deeply in love with your Word
and with your people who live that Word by their faith
and courage.

Teach me to trust that the new life promised to me
is already mine, for Christ is living and ever at my side.
And help me wait in joyful hope for the day I know is
coming

when all our longings will soon be filled
with your love that knows no bounds. Amen.

-Diana Macalintal, Copyright © 2020. All rights reserved.

Marriage and Relationship Education

Do you know someone who is getting married or someone in a relationship who would like to know more about how to create strong, stable relationships?



CatholicCare Social Services Hunter Manning offers pre and post marriage and relationship education workshops and individual sessions that explore the research around intentional connected relationships. They have the aim of supporting couples to build and maintain 'relationship satisfied' partnerships.



Setting the Catt among the pigeons
A Clergy view of Music in Liturgy
Click on link below

Join our Zoom session where Peter Catt, Dean of St John's Cathedral chats with Graeme Morton about

Music in Liturgy

Peter holds a Bachelor of Divinity and a PhD in Evolutionary Microbiology. He is President of A Progressive Christian Voice and a member of the Australian Churches Refugee Taskforce and he also serves on Anglican and Ecumenical Social Justice Committees at a Diocesan and national level AND he loves poetry.

But what does Peter think about music and the role it can play in liturgy? Zoom into this RSCM session to find out

Saturday June 6th - 10am-11am
This free event requires prior registration.

<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=z3fjtrOdy0aRovrZYFuxXNEwIXshKIROtUHZ6Zdo0idUREtIMUIFRDQ5SVc3MFZFOjhOV1EwWTJNWC4u>

We will send you an invitation to the session, with access details. After the event we will email you a link to the recording of the session for your future reference.

SUSPENDED - 2020 SACRAMENTS OF INITIATION PROGRAM

We have been advised by our Bishop that for the safety of all our people the Sacramental program for this year is to be suspended. This means that we will not be continuing any part of the program until 2021. All resources will be the same so please keep these in a safe place. We will communicate with families in Term 4, 2020 with information regarding the 2021 program.

Please know that Fr Paul, Fr John, Fr Mick, the Sacraments of Initiation Team and all our parishioners have you and your children in our prayers. If you have any concerns or questions please call 49338918 or email SOIchisholm@mn.catholic.org.au

Planned Giving / Parish Collections

TAX RECEIPTS FROM PLANNED GIVING: Normally at this time of year you would be advised on which parish in the region is able to provide tax receipts for the donations to the planned giving scheme. As the Coronavirus pandemic resulted in the suspension of Masses after the 15th March this has dramatically reduced the income from each Parish and so Fr Paul has requested all funds are kept within the Parishes.

The Catholic Church is classed as a not for profit organisation and not a charity so, only the funds provided by each parish to the Diocesan charitable works account is able to be used as a tax deduction. This means that this year planned giving tax receipts will not be available.

A Summary of your contribution is always available at anytime. Please email Louise from parish office to request a summary: louise.gilchrist@mn.catholic.org.au

PARISH COLLECTIONS

THE FIRST COLLECTION provides for the priests of the Region: their monthly stipend, household food, cooking and cleaning expenses. Funds surplus to the local priests 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 for all our buildings, maintaining and operating the Regional Office, liturgical supplies, motor vehicle expenses for our clergy, any normal running expenses or regular repairs relating to the East Maitland Presbytery (as this is the home of our Regional Clergy), waste collection, and most importantly – parish and regional ministries and services e.g. the Funeral Ministry, Sacramental Programme, surplus funds stay in your parish.

IF you would like to establish a monthly contribution please contact Louise at the parish office and she will discuss which way would suite your family.

If you wish to just make a one off contribution please do this through this link
<https://www.mn.catholic.org.au/about/parish-payments/>

Thank you to everyone for all your continued support and prayers

Important Notice!!

CLERGY VISIT TO THE HOUSEBOUND and OPPORTUNITY for the Sacrament of RECONCILIATION

If there is any parishioner who is housebound and would appreciate a visit from one of the priests and/or Anointing of the Sick, please contact the presbytery.

Also, if a parishioner wishes to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation please ring the presbytery and make a time to come to see one of the priests at the presbytery.

Presbytery Ph: 4934 5783



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Meetings during the Corona19 closures

The word **ZOOM** now has another meaning in the world ... not just a verb ... *to move or travel very quickly* but now a noun.... a computer application which provides perhaps the most popular video conferencing **app** in the world right now.

Just like most businesses, many families and friends during these times of no personal contact your regional staff, finance and pastoral councils have taken to Zoom meetings very well.

We have been able to meet regularly in the comforts and safety of our homes.

Our **Pastoral Council** have discussed how we can meet the needs of our parishioners during these times. The use of the internet is something which we feel may take a strong role. Last week you would have received a survey which we hope will provide us some information on what we can do to help.

We are also looking at establishing a Website for the region.



Our **Finance Council** have been concentrating on the budget and working on how each parish can survive these times. We are very thankful to everyone who have established electronic donations to both parish and clergy accounts.

Now that we are able to move about a little please drop in your planned give envelope or donations to the East Maitland Presbytery. There is a mail slot at the front door which is quite secure. Please note on the envelope what the donation is for and your community..

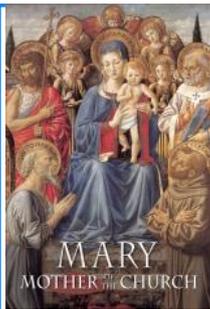
We are hopeful that our staff will be supported by the JobKeeper payment. This is still a little unsure.

Our **Regional staff** have struggled a little bit as our computers in the office don't have camera or sound capacity but still we manage to meet with Zoom and phone calls.

We hope that soon we will be able to join together in prayer again.

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.

Saints and Feasts in June 2020



1st June. Memorial of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of the Church. Pope Francis decreed that this memorial be inscribed in the Roman Calendar on the Monday after Pentecost and celebrated every year in churches throughout the world. It was at the conclusion of the Third Session of the Second Vatican Council, 21 Nov 1964 that St Paul VI declared Blessed Virgin Mary as “Mother of the Church, that is to say of all Christian people, the faithful as well as the pastors, who call her the most loving Mother”.



3rd June. St Charles Lwanga and Companions Charles Lwanga and his companions were African Catholics who died for their faith in Uganda in the 1880s. At the time Uganda was ruled by King Mwanga who persecuted Christians for their primary allegiance to God rather than their king. Charles Lwanga was the head of the royal page boys, some of whom he had baptised. One day all the

pages were assembled and the Christians were separated from the group and arrested. Charles and his companions, many only boys, were martyred for their belief. The example of these passionate young Africans inspired many people who then became converts to Christianity



5th June. St Boniface, bishop & martyr. Was born at Crediton in Devon (England) in about 673. As a child he entered a Benedictine community and in 716 set out for his first missionary expedition to Frisia. This was unsuccessful but he returned two years later, with papal approval, and evangelised much of southern Germany. He was eventually named Archbishop of Mainz. In his seventies he embarked on a

new missionary enterprise in Holland but was martyred at Dokkum in Frisia and is buried at the monastery he had founded in Fulda Germany.



6th June. St Norbert of Xanten, (born c. 1080, Xanten, German) In the 12th century in the French region of Premontré, St Norbert founded a religious Order known as the Praemonstratensians or the Norbertines. This was a monumental task: combating rampant heresies—particularly regarding the Blessed Sacrament, revitalising many of the faithful who had grown indifferent and dissolute, plus effecting peace and reconciliation among enemies. Even with the aid of a goodly number of men who joined his Order, he realised that nothing could be effectively done without God’s power. Finding this help especially in devotion to the Blessed Sacrament, he and his Norbertines praised God for success in converting heretics, reconciling numerous enemies, and rebuilding faith in indifferent believers. Reluctantly, Norbert became archbishop of Magdeburg in central Germany, a territory half pagan and half Christian. In this position he zealously and courageously continued his work for the Church until his death on June 6, 1134.

6th June. St Marcellin Champagnat, religious. (20 May 1789 – 6 June 1840) was born in Rozet, village of Marlihes, near St. Etienne (Loire), France. He was the founder of the Marist Brothers, a religious congregation of men in the Roman Catholic Church devoted to the Virgin Mary and dedicated to



education. Champagnat was ordained as a priest in 1816, and was part of a group led by Jean-Claude Colin which founded the Society of Mary, a separate religious congregation to the Marist Brothers teaching order Marcellin founded later. After a long and painful illness, Champagnat died of cancer on 6 June 1840, aged 51.



7th June, The Most Holy TRINITY Jesus has taught the disciples all that they are to know and understand about the present time. What they need to know about the future will be revealed to them at the appropriate time and when the Paraclete, the Spirit comes. This means that, even when they are faced with the future which is uncertain, the Holy Trinity’s presence will be with them. They are not alone. The Paraclete will not give a new teaching but will continue what Jesus has begun.



11th June. St Barnabas, apostle. was a Jew from the island of Cyprus. He was an apostle, although not one of the Twelve. It was Barnabas who introduced St Paul to the other apostles. Paul later joined Barnabas who had been sent to Antioch to lead the growing Christian community there. Together, Barnabas and Paul set out on the first missionary journey which began in Cyprus, but later they split up after an argument over their companion Mark (the author of the Gospel) who had returned to Jerusalem. Barnabas returned to Cyprus where he established the church and where he was also later martyred around the year 61AD.



13th June. St Anthony of Padua, priest & doctor of the Church. 1195-1231. was born in Lisbon (Portugal) and joined the Canons Regular of St Augustine and then the Franciscans at Coimbra. He became famous as a learned theologian, eloquent preacher and worker of miracles- he is still popularly invoked for finding lost objects. He is known as the ‘Evangelical Doctor’ and was canonised the year after his death. Anthony died on the way back to Padua on 13 June 1231 at the Poor Clare monastery at Padua, aged 35. Anthony is buried in a chapel within the large basilica built to honour him, where his tongue is displayed for veneration in a large reliquary.



14th June. The Most Holy BODY and BLOOD of CHRIST (Corpus Christi). Today we reaffirm with great joy our faith in the Eucharist, the Mystery that constitutes the heart of the Church. This feast originated for the very precise purpose of openly reaffirming the faith of the People of God in Jesus

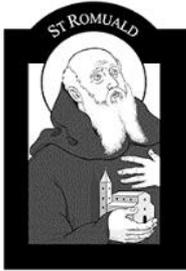
Christ, alive and truly present in the Most Holy Sacrament of the Eucharist. It is a feast that was established in order to publicly adore, praise and thank the Lord, who continues “to love us to the end”, even to offering us His Body and His Blood. Corpus Christi is a renewal of the mystery of Holy Thursday, in obedience to Jesus’ invitation to proclaim from “the housetops” what He told us in secret (Mt 10: 27). It was the Apostles who received the gift of the Eucharist from the Lord in the intimacy of the Last Supper, but it was destined for all, for the whole world. This is why it should be proclaimed and exposed to view: so that each one may encounter “Jesus who passes” as happened on the roads of Galilee, Samaria and Judea; in order that each one, in receiving it, may be healed and

Saints and Feasts in June 2020

renewed by the power of His love.



19th June. The Most SACRED HEART of Jesus. The devotion to the Sacred Heart is one of the most widely practiced and well-known Roman Catholic devotions, taking Jesus Christ's physical heart as the representation of his divine love for humanity. The devotion especially emphasises the unmitigated love, compassion, and long-suffering of the heart of Christ towards humanity. The origin of this devotion in its modern form is derived from a Roman Catholic nun from France, St Margaret Mary Alacoque, who said she learned the devotion from Jesus during a series of apparitions which occurred between 1673 and 1675. Pope Pius XI stated: "*the spirit of expiation or reparation has always had the first and foremost place in the worship given to the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus*". The Feast of the Sacred Heart has been in the Roman Catholic liturgical calendar since 1856, and is celebrated 19 days after Pentecost. As Pentecost is always celebrated on Sunday, the Feast of the Sacred Heart always falls on a Friday.



19th June. St Romuald, abbot. Born to a wealthy family in Ravenna, Italy in around 951. As a young man he lived a life of indulgence, but after witnessing his father kill a relative in a duel, Romuald went to the Basilica Sant'Apollinare and did 40 days of penance for his father. He became a monk there, but he felt that the observances were not strict enough, so he moved to Venice and lived the severe life of a hermit for 10 years. Romuald then spent the next 30 years travelling Italy, founding and reforming monasteries and hermitages, before once again withdrawing to live his remaining years as a hermit.



20th June, Immaculate Heart of Mary. From the moment of Conception, Mary offered acts of faith, hope, love, praise, adoration, and thanksgiving to the God who created her. Her one ambition was union with God, her desire to do His will; the light of grace found no obstacle in her pure soul. Her Immaculate Heart was the throne of all virtue. Devotion to the Immaculate Heart of Mary is the complement of devotion to the Sacred Heart; in the one we honour Christ, the Redeemer; in the other, Mary, co-redemptrix. Thus we honour Christ's mother with the feast of the Immaculate Heart of Mary.



21st June. St Aloysius Gonzaga, religious. 1568.1591. He belonged to one of the great Italian noble families and served as a page at several princely courts. At the age of eighteen he embraced a life of poverty and obedience by joining the Society of Jesus (Jesuits). He showed great piety and died as a result of his heroic nursing of the plague-stricken in 1591. He has been declared protector of Students and patron of Christian youth.



22nd June. Sts John Fisher (Bishop) & Thomas More; Martyrs. Both were friends of King Henry VIII; John Fisher appointed as lifelong Chancellor of Cambridge University and Bishop of Rochester. Thomas More served in

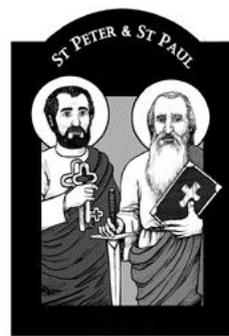


Parliament as a diplomat, later becoming Lord Chancellor. Both were imprisoned and later beheaded for treason for refusing to recognise the king as sovereign of the church to enable himself to divorce.



24th June. Nativity of St John the Baptist. as told in the Gospel of Luke, begins with the Angel Gabriel appearing to John's father in the temple. Gabriel told Zachariah that his elderly wife Elizabeth was to have a son named John. When Zachariah left the temple he was unable to speak, for Gabriel had told Zachariah that he would be left mute until his son was born. After Elizabeth gave birth there was disagreement among the family's relatives over the naming of the baby. When they approached Zachariah he wrote, "His name is John". From that moment, Zachariah was able to speak again and he praised God and made a prophesy about John, saying: "You will be called the prophet of the Most High."

29th June. Sts Peter and Paul, apostles: St. Peter (died c.64). Was the brother of Andrew and a Galilean fisherman. He was called by the Lord and, despite his obvious human weaknesses, eventually chosen as the leader of the Twelve, the 'rock' on which the Church was built. After Pentecost, he became particularly associated with Antioch and then Rome. He was crucified under the Emperor Nero and buried at the Vatican. He is the author of the epistle which bears his name.



St Paul (died c.64/67). Was a tentmaker from Tarsus (then capital of the Roman province of Cilicia, now in Turkey), a Pharisee and a Roman citizen. He was initially a persecutor of Christians but was converted by the Lord on his way to Damascus. He became the Apostle of the Gentiles, preaching the Gospel to the uncircumcised, reaching Greece, Italy, Malta and possibly even Spain. He was beheaded along the Via Ostiense and buried nearby, on this site where the basilica bearing his name now stands. He is the author of more than half the New Testament.



30th June, First Martyrs of the Holy Roman Church. The holy men and women are also called the "Protomartyrs of Rome." They were accused of burning Rome by Nero, who burned Rome to cover his own crimes. Some martyrs were burned as living torches at evening banquets, some crucified, others were fed to wild animals. These martyrs died before Sts. Peter and Paul, and are called "disciples of the Apostles. . . whom the Holy Roman church sent to their Lord before the Apostles' death."

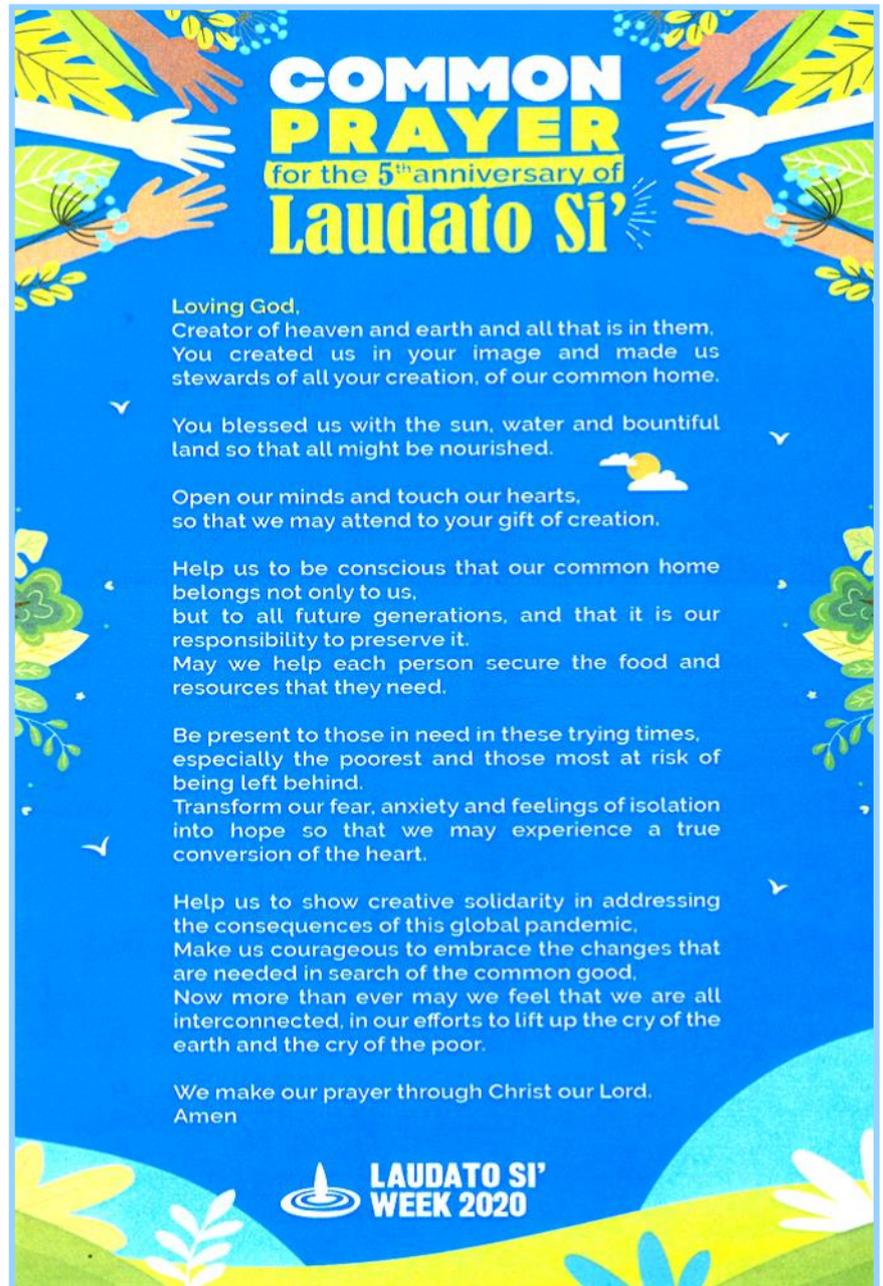
Some other feasts celebrated: 1st June, St Justin, martyr; 2nd June, Marcellinus & Peter, martyr; 9th June, St Ephrem of Syria, author of hymns; 20th June, Immaculate Heart of Mary; 23rd June, Paulinus of Nola; 27th June, Cyril of Alexandria

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5th Anniversary of Pope Francis' Laudato Si' (Praise be to you)

The Encyclical takes its name from the invocation of Saint Francis of Assisi, "Praise be to you, my Lord" which in the Canticle of the Creatures reminds us that the earth, our common home "is like a sister with whom we share our life and a beautiful mother who opens her arms to embrace us". We ourselves "are dust of the earth (cf. Gen 2:7); our very bodies are made up of her elements, we breathe her air and we receive life and refreshment from her waters". While addressing the environment directly, the document's scope is broader in many ways as it looks at not only man's effect on the environment, but also the many philosophical, theological, and cultural causes that threaten the relationships of man to nature and man to each other. In the light of the ecological crisis that demands a conversion of heart and a change of lifestyle, we must have the courage to align ourselves with God's plan for the world. Only by acting in the best interests of the environment, of the poor and of future generations can we save this planet from devastation. The moral imperative, of all Catholics, is to respond to this ecological crisis, one we have witnessed recently through bushfires following on from years of drought.

Go forth, imagine and enact change in a post Covid-19 world, in your circles of influence.



Join worldwide participation through the following resources:

Pope Francis' [video invitation](#) to mark this event with a week of prayer

[Global Prayer](#) for Laudato Si' Week

[Digging into Laudato Si'](#) a free, online *EarthBeat* feature series from National Catholic Reporter
More from [Earth Beat](#) which focuses on stories of climate crisis, faith and action and contains a
range of resources and the possibility of receiving a weekly update.

[Earth as Art](#). When you no longer want to hear or read any more about COVID-19, enjoy the
beauty of your home planet. Watch stunning satellite images in a 4-minute video

Landcare resource forwarded by the Sisters of St Joseph Lochinvar. Hunter Region Landcare
Network has a beautifully [illustrated audio](#) recording of local bird calls, to enjoy in this time of
seclusion. Sr Patricia Egan's niece, [Henrietta Mooney](#) who works for Hunter Landcare, is the
illustrator.

[Pope Francis Earth Day reflection](#)

Historical records indicate that our pioneer priest, Fr John Joseph Therry, celebrated Mass at Morpeth as early as October 1833 and with the establishment of the parochial district of East Maitland in 1835, it can be assumed that Morpeth would be a regular stopover point for the priests from East Maitland as they visited the people in the outlying districts of the parish. A fortnightly Mass Station existed in Morpeth from at least 1854.



In March 1861 land was purchased at Morpeth from Edward Close and the foundation stone for **St Bede's Catholic Church** was blessed and laid on 7th November 1861 by Archbishop Polding of Sydney. The Bishop of Maitland, Dr J Murray, blessed and opened St Bede's Church on 13th November 1870 although the church was probably in regular use from 1862 when the building was completed. Morpeth was still a part of East Maitland Parish but as more priests became available, East Maitland Parish was subdivided and in 1875 the parochial district of Morpeth was established with Fr Patrick Corcoran, who had been at East Maitland since 1871, in charge. The first entry in the Morpeth Marriage Register was recorded on 12th August 1875 and in the Baptismal Register on 12th November 1875. Fr Corcoran remained in Morpeth until 1887 when he returned to his birthplace, Ireland. In 1891 Bishop Murray wrote to Fr Corcoran and offered him the permanent position of parish priest at Morpeth. He returned and cared for his flock until his death on 21st February 1929.



Church of the Immaculate Conception

Fr Corcoran began to build on Morpeth's foundations by erecting buildings to 'meet every parochial need', including a new church, school, presbytery and convent. St Bede's continued to be used as a school building until December 1969 when it was occasionally used as a church hall. It was sold in September 1994.

The foundation stone of the new church was laid on 13th June, 1897 and was opened and blessed by the Most Rev Dr Murray on 2nd October 1898, originally given the name of its predecessor, St Bede's. The reason for the name change to the **Church of the Immaculate Conception** is not known but perhaps it had something to do with Fr Corcoran donating the stained glass window depicting Our Lady of the Immaculate Conception.



An interesting note included in the *History of the Catholic Community in Morpeth NSW* by Kevin Pilgrim is the fact that Fr Corcoran, in doing his rounds of the parish, rode the 1913 Melbourne Cup winner, Posinatus, who was owned and trained by the Chambers family of Morpeth.

Morpeth Parish had eight resident parish priests, seven of whom were Irish - Fr Patrick Thomas Corcoran, Fr James Gleeson, Fr James Walsh, Fr William Hourigan, Fr James Morrissey, Fr Brian Walsh (Australian born), Fr Michael Hanrahan and Fr John Delaney. When Fr Delaney died in 1990 the parish priest of East Maitland also became the parish priest of Morpeth Parish.

Today Morpeth Parish is administered under the Chisholm Pastoral Region under a shared parish priest model.

to be continued.....

Parish News - St Joseph's East Maitland

It amazes me how quickly we can become complacent to what is happening around us. We get used to not going out, and with the colder weather who would want to anyway. We can get used to having someone else do our shopping or having our groceries delivered. We can even get take-away or fine dining delivered to our homes. With the click of a button we can view Mass live streamed from anywhere in the world. We are very privileged and spoiled. How many of us could have coped with the 1919 Pandemic or the struggles of our early pioneers? Do we take too much for granted?

On the feast of the Ascension of the Lord, St Matthew's Gospel described how the disciples on seeing Jesus *'fell down before him, though some hesitated.'* Those same words are relevant for today's time as well, some believe in God's love without question, but some hesitate. On the day of the Ascension Jesus spoke the following words to give us hope and encouragement – *'And know that I am with you always; yes, to the end of time.'*

Celebrating the feast of Our Lady Help of Christians, patroness of Australia on the 24th May, the Bishops of Australia asked us to intercede to Our Lady Help of Christians for our nation during this time of the Covid-19 virus. Jesus' gift to us before he died on the cross was his mother, Mary, who is a light for us. With the love of Jesus for us and with the intercession of Our Lady, we will emerge from this current lockdown a more caring people and a much better nation. Pray the Rosary, asking Our Lady to intercede for us.



With the easing of some restrictions, and with Fr Paul's approval, St Joseph's church will be open for private prayer from Monday 1st June, initially 9.30am to 10.30am each day of the week. A parish delegate will be in attendance during the hour. There are a number of regulations that will have to be adhered to which are outlined in the general notices. The time may be able to be extended if more come forward to volunteer their time. Thank you to those who have made this commitment that will enable the church to be open.

The Parish Team is endeavouring to have a contact list of as many parishioners as we can. This will be held at the Regional Office and will only be available for use by the Parish Team when required. As a church community we were unprepared for the lockdown of our churches and it has highlighted the difficulty we have in keeping people informed as to what is happening in the parish and reaching out to the most vulnerable. Please contact Judy for a copy of the parish survey or to supply your contact details and your usual Mass time. Email foxzami@tpg.com.au or phone 4934 8232.

Take care, stay safe and if possible reach out to the lonely. This is a difficult time for us all but we need to remain positive and follow the directives given by the government and health authorities and do what we can for each other. God Bless.



Parish News - St Patrick's Lochinvar

Given the restrictions the Lochinvar Team has decided to wait until these are lifted before they open the church for private prayer.

Sacred Heart, Campbell's Hill:

The Campbell's Hill Team will be meeting on Tuesday where we will discuss the requirements involved for opening the Church for private prayer and how feasible it is for our community.

Holy Family Largs:

With the easing of the COVID-19 restrictions members of the Holy Family Team have offered to facilitate the following prayer opportunities starting from June 14th 2020:

- **Open Holy Family church:** 1 hour on Sunday for private prayer in front of the Blessed Sacrament. Time 8.30 to 9.30am. You do not need to register. Numbers in the church at any one time to meet State Government guidelines. If requiring more information please contact Terry O'Brien, 0429 727 704.
- **Lectio Divina:** is a practice of scriptural reading, meditation and prayer intended to promote communion with God and to increase the knowledge of God's word. To be held on a week night in the church. Time to be set following expressions of interest for attendance. You do need to register for this activity. Please contact Karli Chenery 0417 687 377.
- **Rosary:** Monday 1.00pm in the Church. You do need to register for this activity. Please contact Lynette Huckstadt 0408 329 495.
- **Simple liturgy with scripture reflection & prayer,** not including receiving the Blessed Sacrament, to be held in the church. Time to be set following expressions of interest for attendance. You do need to register for this activity. Please contact Yvonne Rohr 0432 550 986.

Attendance at all these activities will meet with State distancing and number guidelines. Attendees will also need to meet State requirements to provide name and contact details, which will be maintained for one month.

Members of other Faith Communities are also welcome to participate in any of these activities.

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

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

St Columba's, Paterson:

OPENING OF THE PATERSON CHURCH FOR PRIVATE PRAYER

We feel it is the community we are missing; 'We miss Mass at the church and the Paterson "family" very much and look forward to when we meet again'. To open the church for private prayer means it is a lot of work for some to make this prayer time happen in the Church. Our feedback shows that parishioners are happy with how they are going with their spiritual support at home. At this stage with the responses from the emails and the regulated conditions (*The conditions for doing this requires to keep a record of the name, phone number and email contact of anyone who visits our churches for that time. These records need to be filed at our parish office for a month following the visit. Also, it is required that the Parish Priest or delegate be in the church to supervise the number of people while it is open. Afterwards the church needs to be cleaned and sanitised...*) we think it is appropriate not to follow through with opening our Paterson Church for private prayer.

Parish News - Our Lady of Lourdes Beresfield

Hello everyone. We all continue to try to keep in touch with each other and support each other to the very best of our ability. The following poem was sent to me by a good friend. It helped me to focus on the hope that the outcome of all of this will be that new ways of living will be created, and the earth will be healed, creating a better future for us all. I hope you will all find it helpful also.

*'And people began to think differently
And people healed.'*

History repeats itself.....this poem written in 1869, by Kathleen O'Mara and reprinted during 1919 Pandemic.

*And people stayed at home
And read books
And listened
And they rested
And did exercises
And made art and played
And learned new ways of being
And stopped and listened
More deeply
Someone meditated, someone prayed
Someone met their shadow
And people began to think differently
And people healed.
And in the absence of people who
Lived in ignorant ways
Dangerous, meaningless and heartless,
The earth also began to heal
And when the danger ended and
People found themselves
They grieved for the dead
And made new choices
And dreamed of new visions
And created new ways of living
And completely healed the earth
Just as they were healed
For peace of soul*

Our Lady of Lourdes Church at Beresfield will not be opening for group or personal prayers at this time.

The Parish team will be meeting soon to consider opening the church for our regular Friday prayers once the restrictions are further eased.

We are hoping that this will be in the next few weeks.

Stay safe and stay well everyone.

Parish News - St Paul's Church, Rutherford

Like everywhere else in in our Region St Pauls remains in a state of flux. The Parish team has not met since February 18th.

Some great people have developed a list of parishioners who are contacted by phone or email on a regular basis to 'keep in touch' and spread some news. Copies of the weekly Bulletin are being delivered to some people in the Rutherford/Telarah area.

After discussion with some Parishioners about the possibility of opening the Church for private prayer, there was not a lot of interest and the general feeling was that we wait until the restrictions are less strict. Of course, like so may other Parishes many of our congregation are elderly and not venturing far from home.

The Acting Principal at the school has not been contacted yet about access and usage by the pupils. This will be attended to shortly.

God bless all and keep safe. MN for the team.

Parish News - St Paul's Rutherford

May 2020 - Colleen Canny Reporting

Well that horrible virus continues, and I guess we all find it very frustrating. The St Vincent de Paul Conference continues with their Cheerio calls, checking that our parishioners are all OK. One of our parishioners has related the Cheerio calls to a Telephone Tree, as the callings have grown and the branches seemingly forming a network, with now many of the parishioners, also are Cheerio calling. The calls have been very much appreciated, continuing to follow in the footsteps of Frederick Ozerman.

Last week one of our parishioners Ruth Warner, sadly lost her mother Eunie. Ruth's Mother was very much loved and respected. Sadly with the restrictions, friends were unable to attend the funeral. I believe friends of Eunie formed a guard of honour along High Street at Morpeth, leading to the cemetery. Ruth requested we light a candle and say a prayer for her Mother, on last Friday at 10.45am. I have been informed there were many candles lit for Eunie.

The Rutherford Conference of St Vincent de Paul will be commencing an Appeal for blankets, warm clothing, socks and beanies. We feel this winter there will be many people in need and feeling the cold. I spoke to June Punch the Manager of St Vincent de Paul shop at Maitland, who informed me there will be a serious need for these articles. Unfortunately, the shop remains closed. June suggested we don't place clothing in the Vinnie's bins, as the bins are transferred to Cardiff. The shop hopefully will be reopening in June. Plan A was to activate the Appeal through the St Paul's Church, but at this stage no decision has been decided on the reopening. So we are suggesting depositing the clothing and blankets directly to the shop. If there is difficulty delivering to the shop we can arrange a pickup from the home.

St Paul's Primary school has also been very busy with home schooling, a difficult time for schools and students.

Our St Paul's mothers were very happy to see an Art Display on the school fence, with many displays of sunflowers, and a message wishing our Mothers a Happy Mothers Day. Thank you St Paul's Primary School, we loved the kind thought, and it was appreciated.

Parish News - Immaculate Conception

Unfortunately we continue to be isolated and without the opportunity to join together as a community at the celebration of Sunday Mass, which for many is the highlight of our spiritual week. Nevertheless, there are many opportunities to attend an on-line Mass on your TV and various other media avenues, e.g. Netflix or YouTube, to name just a couple. I agree it is not the same as attending personally at Mass as part of a vibrant community.

At the recent Regional Pastoral meeting conducted remotely via Zoom we were called upon to explore avenues for prayer, worship and spiritual reflection within our communities. As restrictions continue to be relaxed there may be opportunities for small gatherings of up to ten persons which may facilitate groups to reflect on the Gospel readings, rosary groups or other spiritual activities. If you have any suggestions then please feel free to send them to me so that I can communicate them to the Parish Team in the hope of offering them to those interested. My email is johnsaunders438@gmail.com

The events set down for June in our Spiritual and Social calendar have been cancelled. When the restrictions placed on us during this epidemic are lifted, we can look forward to once again joining together for the celebration of Sunday Mass and a big bash breakfast to make up for those we have missed during this time of isolation. Hopefully those responsible for providing the breakfast specials have not lost their cooking skills (no excuses) so we can enjoy them once again.

During this time of isolation we have mourned the deaths of a number of parishioners and family member of parishioners. Hopefully, when things get back to normal we will have the opportunity to arrange a special Mass of Remembrance for those who have died during this time of restricted funeral attendances.

In the interim, we are asked to remember them in our thoughts and prayers.

As we continue to experience the effects of this pandemic, it gives us time to reflect on the positive aspects of slowing down, and changing our lifestyle, especially in relation to the way we respect the world in which we live.

The Encyclical "Laudato Si" by Pope Francis, signed on the 24th May 2015, the Feast Day of Our lady Help of Christians, the Patron of our Nation, is a good starting point for reflection.

ACTiv8 Craft with Bec

As this weekend is Pentecost I thought it was fitting to share a craft activity on the Gifts of the Holy Spirit. Once you have completed your creations please feel free to email them to the Parish office so we can share them in the next edition of the Chisholm Connection.

Materials needed to make Gifts of the Spirit Craft

- Templates below
- Crayons or pencils
- Black marker
- Sticky tape
- Ribbon or string
- Scissors

1. Color all the templates
2. Add the words Gifts of the Spirit to the dove with a black marker
3. Add a Gift of the Holy Spirit to each flame using a black marker *Wisdom, Understanding, Counsel, Fortitude knowledge, Piety, Fear of the Lord*
4. Cut out all the templates
5. Using string hang each Gift of the Spirit from the wings of the dove. Attach the string from the back of the templates to hide the tape.
6. Take a picture if you wish and email to chisholm@mn.catholic.org.au

A mother was preparing pancakes for her sons, Kevin 5, and Ryan 3.

The boys began to argue over who would get the first pancake.

Their mother saw the opportunity for a moral lesson.

"If Jesus were sitting here, He would say, 'Let my brother have the first pancake, I can wait.'

Kevin turned to his younger brother and said, "Ryan, you be Jesus!"



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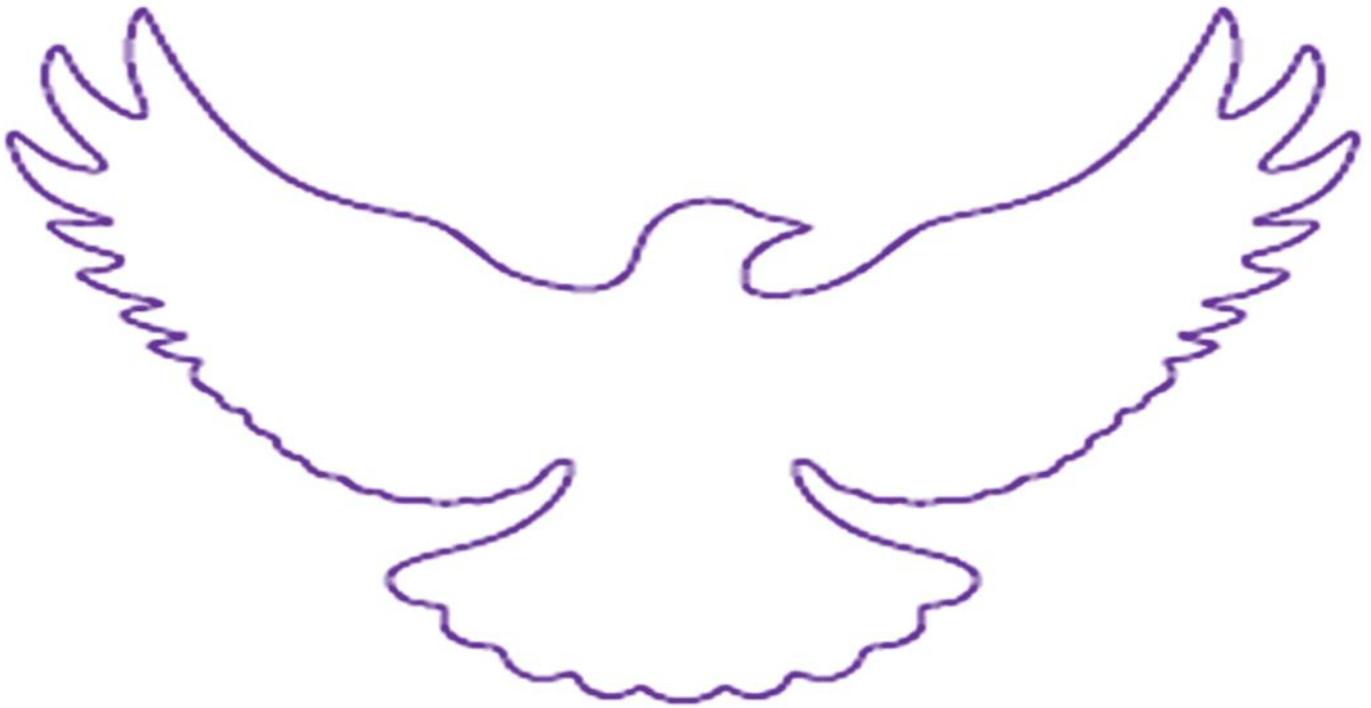
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Find us on 





Youth Groups Suspended until further notice

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

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.

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