



## Maitland Parishes of the Chisholm Pastoral Region

Communities Gathering  
in Prayer and Worship

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,  
(Presbytery 4934 5783)

### Support Clergy

Fr Maurie Cahill, Fr Lex Levey,  
Fr Greg Arnold, Fr John Purnell,  
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

### Family Ministry Co-ordinator, Hunter Deanery

Lucy Sneesby-Tooth 0417 773 444

### Regional Office

Louise Gilchrist, Rita King,  
Janine Sidoti, Sandra Buck

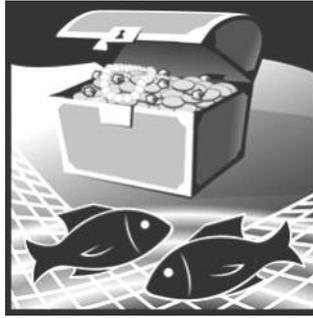
302-304 High St Maitland 2320  
PO Box 215 Maitland 2320

**Hrs: Tues - Fri 9.00am-4.30pm  
(closed for lunch 12.30-1.30pm)**

### CLOSED MONDAYS

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

# 17TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME YEAR A, 26th July, 2020 - Chisholm Connection



### Entrance Antiphon

God is in his holy place,  
God who unites those who dwell in his  
house; he himself gives might and  
strength to his people.

### Gloria

Glory to God in the highest, and on  
earth peace to people of good will.  
We praise you, we bless you,  
we adore you, we glorify you,  
we give you thanks for your great  
glory, Lord God, heavenly King,  
O God, almighty Father.  
Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son,  
Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the  
Father, have mercy on us;  
you take away the sins of the world,  
have mercy on us;  
you take away the sins of the world,  
receive our prayer;  
you are seated at the right hand of  
the Father, have mercy on us.  
For you alone are the Holy One,  
you alone are the Lord,  
you alone are the Most High,  
Jesus Christ,  
with the Holy Spirit,  
in the glory of God the Father.  
Amen.

### LITURGY OF THE WORD

**First Reading** 1 Kings 3:5.7-12 *You  
have asked for wisdom.*

### A reading from the first book of the Kings

The Lord appeared to Solomon in a  
dream and said, 'Ask what you would  
like me to give you.' Solomon replied,  
'Lord, my God, you have made your  
servant king in succession to David my  
father. But I am a very young man,  
unskilled in leadership. Your servant  
finds himself in the midst of this  
people of yours that you have chosen,  
a people so many its numbers cannot  
be counted or reckoned. Give your  
servant a heart to understand how to  
discern between good and evil, for  
who could govern this people of yours  
that is so great?' It pleased the Lord  
that Solomon should have asked for  
this. 'Since you have asked for this'  
the Lord said 'and not asked for long  
life for yourself or riches or the lives of  
your enemies, but have asked for a  
discerning judgement for yourself,  
here and now I do what you ask. I  
give you a heart wise and shrewd as

none before you has had and none will  
have after you.'

**The Word of the Lord  
Thanks be to God**

**Resp. Psalm (R.)** Lord, I love your  
commands.

My part, I have resolved, O Lord, is to  
obey your word. The law from your  
mouth means more to me than silver  
and gold. **(R.)**

Let your love be ready to console me  
by your promise to your servant. Let  
your love come to me and I shall live  
for your law is my delight. **(R.)**

That is why I love your commands  
more than finest gold. That is why I  
rule my life by your precepts: I hate  
false ways. **(R.)**

Your will is wonderful indeed;  
therefore I obey it. The unfolding of  
your word gives light and teaches the  
simple. **(R.)**

**Second Reading** *Romans 8:28-30 He  
predestined us to become true images  
of his Son.*

### A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

We know that by turning everything to  
their good God co-operates with all  
those who love him, with all those that  
he has called according to his purpose.  
They are the ones he chose specially  
long ago and intended to become true  
images of his Son, so that his Son  
might be the eldest of many brothers.  
He called those he intended for this;  
those he called he justified, and with  
those he justified he shared his glory.

**The Word of the Lord  
Thanks be to God**

### Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia!

Blessed are you, Father, Lord of  
heaven and earth; you have revealed  
to little ones the mysteries of the  
kingdom. **Alleluia!**

### Gospel

*Matthew 13:44-52 He sells  
everything he owns and buys the field.*

Jesus said to the crowds, 'The  
kingdom of heaven is like treasure  
hidden in a field which someone has  
found; he hides it again, goes off  
happy, sells everything he owns and  
buys the field.

'Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a  
merchant looking for fine pearls; when  
he finds one of great value he goes  
and sells everything he owns and buys  
it.

'Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a  
dragnet cast into the sea that brings in  
a haul of all kinds. When it is full, the  
fishermen haul it ashore; then, sitting  
down, they collect the good ones in a  
basket and throw away those that are  
no use. This is how it will be at the  
end of time: the angels will appear  
and separate the wicked from the just

## CHISOLM CONNECTION JULY/AUG 2020

Inside you will find:

FR PAUL'S HOMILY/UNIVERSAL PRAYERS/  
FR PAUL'S MESSAGE/REGIONAL MASSES/  
SVdP/ RCIA/AUGUST SAINTS  
WHAT'S HAPPENING IN OUR REGION  
HISTORY OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH cont  
PARISH NEWS/ACTIV8/SPONSORS

to throw them into the blazing furnace where there will be weeping and grinding of teeth.

'Have you understood all this?' They said, 'Yes.' And he said to them, 'Well, then, every scribe who becomes a disciple of the kingdom of heaven is like a householder who brings out from his storeroom things both new and old.'

**The Gospel of the Lord  
Praise to You, Lord Jesus Christ**

**The Apostles' Creed**

I believe in God, the Father Almighty,  
Creator of heaven and earth,  
and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, (all bow)  
born of the Virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,

was crucified, died and was buried;  
he descended into hell;  
on the third day he rose again from the dead;  
he ascended into heaven,  
and is seated at the right hand of God the Father  
almighty;  
from there he will come to judge the living and the  
dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and life everlasting. Amen.

**Communion Antiphon**

Bless the Lord, O my soul, and never forget all his  
benefits.

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## Homily - 17th Sunday in Ordinary Sunday...by Fr Paul

My sisters and brothers,

Some of us dream about getting rich, we back the horses, we buy lotto tickets. In the Gospel today we hear of a man who finds a treasure hidden in the field and he goes off and sells everything he owns to buy the field.

Back in 2010 I had the opportunity to do a renewal course at a Catholic University in Oakland California. One of the presentations on that course talked about how God reveals himself to us. It said that there are three ways we can find our God. Firstly, in the beauty of creation. Secondly, in the tradition of our faith, specially the scriptures, and thirdly, within the human heart.

So, we are surrounded by the treasure that God gives us, in creation, in the scriptures and in our human heart. Let's continue to look for that treasure and recognise it every day and thereby be enriched by God's presence in our lives.

With love  
Fr Paul



**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.*

Live-stream Mass every Sunday at 9.30am

<https://www.mn.catholic.org.au/places/live-stream/>

TV Mass for you at home on Channel 10 each Sunday at 6am

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**All Recently Deceased**

Rufil Acaylar, Salvador Zamuras Sr

**Anniversaries**

Marie Breiner, Mary Therese Brice, Beverley Brodie, Jack Burgess, Very Rev Patrick Cotter, Sr Jean Marie Cross, Alf & Marie Hanlon, Elizabeth Hoawerth, Frank Ingruber, Hilda (Betty) Jennings, Ingrid Kaiser, Lionel (Alec) King, Hope & Joel Lawrence, Marcelina Manalo, Rita Marquez, Eileen Martin, Marie Tynan McNamara, Peter Robert Mills, Rev Maurus O'Connell OSB, Sr Joseph Mary Parmeter, Ella Peters, Evelyn Rosenberg, Edith Saunders, Brigitte Schaefer, Thomas Shanahan, Dorothy Tynan, Rev Horace Whibberley

*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, Irena Dennis, 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

**Universal Prayers - 17th Sunday in Ordinary Sunday**

**Celebrant:** We have heard the message given to Solomon, 'whatever you ask I will give you', Let us put our prayers before our God in true faith.

**Prayer Leader**

We pray for Pope Francis, Bishops and Priests who lead us in our faith, that they be given the words to spread the message of the Gospel among God's people with strength and wisdom. . . . We pray to the Lord. . . . . **Lord hear our prayer.**

Give each of us the faith to continue to search for the Treasures that you have hidden in the hearts of each of us, and the graces to find the joy of your love in our neighbours. We pray to the Lord. . . . . **Lord hear our prayer.**

As we continue in this Covid time, give us the Wisdom to learn our true meaning of life showing respect and love for our neighbours as we go about our daily tasks keeping each other safe. . . . We pray to the Lord. . . . . **Lord hear our prayer.**

For those who are searching within themselves for what is important for them in this life, we pray to the Holy Spirit, to empower them with courage and love to do what God is asking of them. . . . . We pray to the Lord. . . . . **Lord hear our prayer.**

We pray to you Lord God of all, to give Strength and Wisdom to those who are working to find a vaccine and cure to overcome this Coronavirus and for those who are caring for the sick. Keep them free from harm and give them the graces they need to carry out their work. . . . We pray to the Lord. . . . . **Lord hear our prayer**

Let Your light shine on those who have contracted the Covid Virus, and our own people who are not well specially Fr Michael, may they feel Your Loving presence giving them comfort and peace. . . . We pray to the Lord. . . . . **Lord hear our prayer.**

We pray for those who have died especially Rufil Acaylar and Salvador Zamuras Sr, may they now find their reward in the fullness of the Kingdom of heaven. . . . We pray to the Lord. . . . . **Lord hear our prayer.**

**Celebrant:** God of Mercy and love give us the serenity to accept the things we cannot change, the courage to change the things we can, and the wisdom to know the difference. We ask through Christ our Lord.

## Message from Fr Paul

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

The months since March have gone by with our Australian community struggling to respond to the crisis of the Covid-19 virus. Our lives and lifestyle have been turned upside down. We are so grateful for the efforts of our leaders, our healthcare workers and our emergency services for everything they are doing to protect our community. We are mindful of those families who have suffered loss due to the Corona virus.

As parish communities of our region we have been delighted to be able to return to the public celebration of Masses. I am very grateful to our parish staff and to our parish pastoral teams for all the efforts they have put into our return to Mass. As you know Bishop Bill has said that for the time being there is no obligation to attend Sunday Mass. Those who are unwell or have chronic health conditions or are simply feeling uncertain about the situation are encouraged to keep safe and stay at home.

We are grateful to all the efforts being made to reach out to our parishioners who may feel isolated at this stage. Every weekend we are sending out the parish bulletin online and a number of parishioners are delivering the bulletin to homes to those who do not have access to the internet. Thank you. If you know of someone who would like to receive the bulletin online and is not on our database, please let our parish office know.

On the bulletin each week we have placed the scripture readings for that Sunday, a homily reflection by one of the priests and the prayers of intercession that are prayed at our Sunday Masses. We encourage individuals and families who are at home and unable to come to Mass to pray these readings and prayers together.

Just an update on Fr Michael Kelly's condition. At present he is in a rehabilitation hospital in Sydney having a prosthesis built for his leg and undergoing physiotherapy. His recovery will take a number of months and I have assured him of our prayerful support and he sends his love and best wishes and gratitude to our communities.

Let us continue to do all we can to support each other in our parish communities, especially in this time of crisis.

With love  
Fr Paul

### **CHISHOLM REGIONAL OFFICE OPEN**

As restrictions abated, our regional office has re-opened, BUT, with some restrictions. We ask that these restrictions continue to be 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**



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# Chisholm Region Masses

| SUNDAY MASS TIMES  |   |
|--------------------|---|
| DAY                | TIME/MASS CENTRE  |
| Saturday<br>VIGIL  | 5.00pm St Joseph's, East Maitland   |
|                    | 6.00pm Our Lady of Lourdes, Beresfield  |
|                    | 6.30pm Sacred Heart, Campbell's Hill  |
| Sunday             | 7.15am Immaculate Conception, Morpeth   |
|                    | 8.00am St Paul's, Rutherford  |
|                    | 8.20am Holy Family, Largs   |
|                    | 8.30am St Joseph's, East Maitland   |
|                    | 9.30am St Columba's, Paterson   |
|                    | 9.30am St Patrick's, Lochinvar  |
| Wednesday          | 6.00pm St Joseph's, East Maitland   |
|                    | 9.00am Immaculate Conception, Morpeth<br>*7.00pm Holy Family, Largs <b>*Please note time change</b> |
| WEEKDAY MASS TIMES |   |
| Tues               | <b>6.30pm</b> St Joseph's, East Maitland<br><b>*Please note change of time</b>                      |
| Thurs              | 7am St Joseph's, East Maitland  |
| Fri                | 7am St Joseph's, East Maitland  |
| Sat                | 8am St Joseph's, East Maitland + Reconciliation   |

**REGISTRATION:** Parishioners from each community need to **REGISTER** their attendance **EACH WEEK**. Registration will be the responsibility of your church team leader at each Mass:

St Joseph's East Maitland Mass registration: [www.trybooking.com/BJWZV](http://www.trybooking.com/BJWZV) or phone Judy Healey 0412689517 / 49348232. Online registrations for morning Masses close the evening prior at 8pm and for the evening Masses at 3.30pm on the day of the Mass. After closure times please call Judy to be registered as registrations over the phone can be taken up to 30 minutes before Mass.

**All other Mass Centres please contact:**

***Our Lady of Lourdes Beresfield*** - Irena Dickson  
4966 2902 / 0407 662 901

***Sacred Heart Campbell's Hill*** - Judy Crittenden  
0412 821 505 / Carole Wickham 0429 328 127

***Immaculate Conception Morpeth*** - John Saunders  
4934 8520 / 0414 254 230

***St Paul's Rutherford*** - Gabby Fishlock  
0422 086 991 (please note change in phone number)

***Holy Family Largs*** - Sunday 8.20am - Terry O'Brien,  
0429 727 704 or email terryob1956@gmail.com  
Wednesday 7pm - Yvonne Rohr 0432 550 986  
ymrohr@gmail.com

***St Columba's Paterson*** - Maryanne & Bill O'Connor,  
0409 336 993

***St Patrick's Lochinvar*** - Tony Towers  
0437 280 147 / 4932 0208

## Covid-19 Update

As we have all heard from the media this week a Public Health Alert has been issued for our region.

This follows confirmation of a COVID-19 case visiting the Windsor Castle, East Maitland on the evening of 13<sup>th</sup> July between 6pm – 8pm and Port Stephens area July 15<sup>th</sup>. Anyone who visited the Windsor Castle during this timeframe or the Port Stephens area on July 15<sup>th</sup> and is experiencing COVID-19 symptoms, should seek testing immediately.

This is a very good reminder that COVID-19 is not just in the cities. Please keep our communities safe and if you have cold or flu-like symptoms such as fever, sore throat, cough or shortness of breath please get tested and stay isolated until your results come through.

Fr Paul and Fr John know that this is a very worrying time for everyone . Please remember when you are booking into attend church that Bishop Bill has released Catholics of our Diocese from the obligation to attend Sunday Mass during this time.

### To Mask or not to Mask....

This is what most of us are discussing. Really, it may be something that comes and goes as spikes appear within our area or if we wish to visit our elderly just as a precaution.

I have tried to purchase re-usable masks over the past few days and have found that they are very expensive or hard to know whether they are made with the correct materials.

These instructions on the making cloth masks are from the Victorian State Government/Health and Human Services.

I know we have some very clever people within our congregations who may want to try this out.

**Instructions next page.** If you wish to receive this document in another format you can email the

Public Health branch - [public.health@dhhs.vic.gov.au](mailto:public.health@dhhs.vic.gov.au)

Also available at [www.dhhs.vic.gov.au/coronavirus](http://www.dhhs.vic.gov.au/coronavirus)



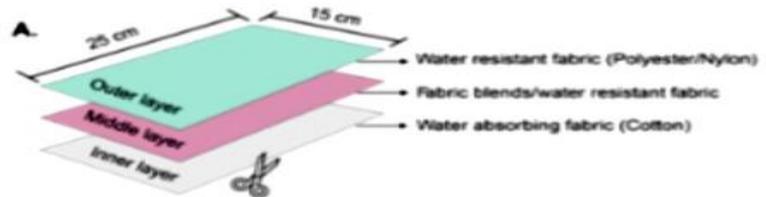


## To make this cloth mask you will need:

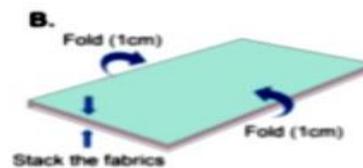
- 1 x piece (25cm x 15cm) of water-resistant fabric (polyester/nylon)
- 1 x piece (25cm x 15cm) of fabric blends fabric (cotton polyesters mixture)
- 1 x piece (25cm x 15cm) of water absorbing fabric (cotton)
- 2 x pieces (15cm each) of elastic

## Steps

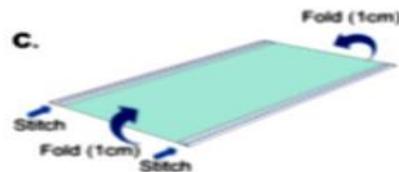
- A. Cut out three 25 cm x 15 cm rectangles of cotton fabric, fabric blends (cotton polyesters mixture), and polyester fabric for inner layer, middle layer, and outer layer respectively.**



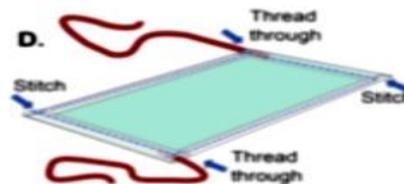
- B. Stack the three rectangles (like a single piece of fabric) according to the order mentioned in point A. Then fold over the edge of the fabric on the long side to create a seam of 1 cm.**



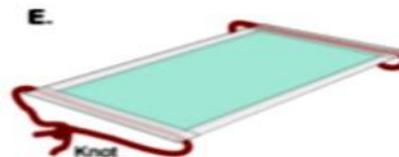
- C. Stitch down the folded long side and then fold the edge of the short side over to create a 1 cm seam.**



- D. Stitch down the folded short side and run a 15 cm long elastic (or elastic head bands) through the hem on each short side of the mask to prepare the ear loops.**

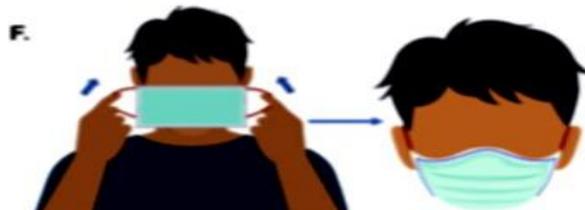


- E. Knot the elastic ends tightly.**

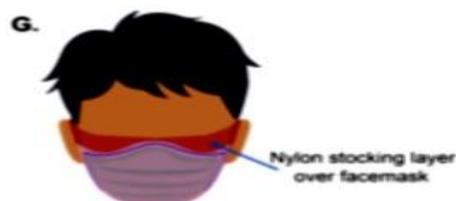


- F. Wear the mask carefully so that the mask fits your face.**

While wearing the mask do not touch the outer layer.



- G. If you want to improve the fit of your mask you can add a nylon stocking over the mask and tie it at the back of your head.**





## THANK YOU



During this difficult time when the current pandemic is affecting the lives of all of us, it is heartening that students in our local schools are reaching out to support those who are most at risk.

Students, together with staff and families, have contributed hampers of food for distribution to the needy. In particular we thank students from St Joseph's Primary School East Maitland, St Aloysius Primary School Chisholm and All Saints College Maitland for thinking of others and for their generous donations. They will be distributed to local families in the weeks ahead. I

understand that students from St Paul's Rutherford also have plans for a project to support the disadvantaged in our community.

We also thank parishioners from St Paul's Rutherford who have donated a large collection of blankets and warm clothing, which will be put to very good use in these cold winter months.

Because of the pandemic, and the fact that Masses were not celebrated for a period of time, Winter Appeal envelopes were not distributed this year. However parishioners and members of the community who wish to make a donation to the Winter Appeal can do so by phoning 13 18 12 or by visiting [vinnies.org.au](http://vinnies.org.au).

Your support is greatly appreciated.

Michael Healy  
Regional President

### **St John the Baptist Primary School SVdP Winter Appeal**

Students and families from **St John the Baptist Primary School** had a very successful **St Vincent de Paul Winter Appeal** drive, in support of our local store just before the close of Term 2.

Well over 50 bags of assorted clothing, blankets and non-perishable food was donated and just over \$400 in cash. A huge **THANKYOU** to our families for your generosity.



# What's Happening in the Chisholm Region/Diocese

## Baptism in our Region

As you know Baptisms had been suspended because of COVID-19 restrictions. As restrictions have eased, we have now returned to celebrate Regional Baptisms (not throughout Mass as yet).

There are over 50 Baptisms that had been booked prior to restrictions, and these will be our first priority.

3 Baptisms with a limit of 25 people inclusive for each family, at:

11.30am St Joseph's East Maitland, AND  
11.30am Sacred Heart, Campbell's Hill

Please note: Families must attend a Sunday 6pm Youth Mass and Baptism Preparation talk either on the 1st or 3rd Sunday of the month and register your contact details with the parish contact. Please ring the regional office to book and/or for more information:

4933 8918 / [chisholm@mn.catholic.org.au](mailto:chisholm@mn.catholic.org.au)

## 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

### Deadline & Distribution Dates 2020

| ISSUE    | EDITORIAL DEADLINE | DISTRIBUTION DATE |
|----------|--------------------|-------------------|
| AUG/SEPT | 24th August        | 30th August 2020  |

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

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](http://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](#)

## 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](mailto:rose.mcallister@mn.catholic.org.au) for more information.

**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 regional office 4933 8918.

## 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](mailto: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.



Hello Hunter helps people who are feeling isolated, lonely or anxious. Volunteers are available to make a friendly call, deliver essentials, assist in

finding specialised help or on request pray with the person. Hello Hunter has a call centre, which takes requests for assistance, then neighbourhood hubs mobilise their volunteers. Hubs are formed according to suburb and postcode. The goal is to have the person in need assisted by their nearest neighbour. **Hello Hunter are now looking for hub leaders and volunteers.** Volunteers need to submit a form, validated by their local parish priest or parish leader. Go to [www.hellohunter.org.au](http://www.hellohunter.org.au) for more information.

## Special Religious Education (SRE)

Special Religious Education (SRE) is an important ministry within this Diocese which supports parents, students, clergy and parishes in the religious education of approximately 2500 students attending government schools.

Unfortunately, COVID-19 has had an impact on this ministry. On March 23 the NSW Department of Education provided advice that all SRE was to pause. As we emerge out of restrictions SRE is now allowed back in schools from the beginning of Term 3. The current concern is many of those involved in the SRE ministry fit into the vulnerable category according to the [NSW Health guidelines](#) and the [AHPPC guidelines](#).

We need your help!

Do you have a calling to spread the good news and joy of the Gospels to children in 2020? Are you able to be there to support the children in the SRE classroom and the Catechists who are unable to return?

Please ring the regional office for more information.

## Mass and Prayer

**MIDDAY Mass at St John's Chapel - Wednesdays** This will coincide with current COVID-19 regulations re social distancing etc. Chapel is also open for private prayer during the day. **ALL WELCOME.**

**Holy Family, Largs :** Rosary will be held each Monday at 1pm. *You do need to register for this activity.*

*Please contact Lynette Huckstadt 0408 329 495.*

**St Joseph's Church East Maitland,** will be open for private prayer in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament on

**Monday - 9.30am-10.30am,** Adoration 12 midday for 1 hour **Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday - 9.30am-10.30am**

**Friday - following 7.00am Mass to 9.00am.**

\*Parousia CD's available for purchase in the side porch.

**THE EAST MAITLAND CRAFT GROUP** are starting up again! Every Monday commencing 27th July. Due to Covid-19 distancing requirements the group will be moving to the foyer of the Therry Centre from 9.30am to 12 noon. *For more information please contact 4933 5840 / 4933 4586 or just come along. ALL WELCOME.*

## OLOL BERESFIELD - 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. Everyone welcome. **The church will be open from 9.00am to 10.30am each Friday morning.**

**OLOL BERESFIELD - CATHOLIC LADIES GROUP:** The next meeting will be on **Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> July at 10am** in the Parish Meeting Room. Everyone welcome.

## Suspended - 2020 Sacraments of Initiation program

With COVID-19 came the cancellation of Parish Sacramental Programs, and Confirmation and First Communion celebrations. At the same time, Bishop Bill invited us to take a fallow year to reflect on our current pastoral practice. When restrictions ease a little more Fr Paul, Fr John and the Sacraments of Initiation team will be reviewing the current processes our Region works to see where, if any, changes and improvements may be made to our current programme.

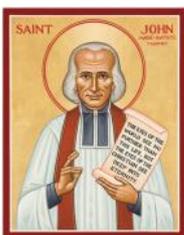


**1ST AUGUST, ST ALPHONSUS LIGUORI** was born near Naples in 1696, and was the son of a nobleman. He was a successful lawyer before being ordained a priest at the age of 29. In 1731, Alphonsus refounded a community of nuns and a year later he founded the Congregation of the Holy Redeemer; a community of priests dedicated to preaching to the poor in rural towns. He was bishop of Saint Agatha dei Goti for thirteen years before retiring due to ill health. He published more than thirty theological and devotional works and as a result was declared a Doctor of the Church in 1871.



**3RD AUGUST, ST DOMINIC DE GUZMAN** was born in Calaruega, Spain, in c.1170. One legend suggests that at his baptism, his mother saw a shining star appear in front of him. Dominic became a priest at the age of twenty six, and several years later was made the unofficial leader of a papal mission to the

Albigensian heretics in the French province of Languedoc. For this work he trained a group of religious women and established a nunnery at Prouille. Soon the idea of an order of preachers began to grow, and in 1216 the order of Friars Preachers was formally approved by Rome. With a strong emphasis on the vow of poverty, the Friars Preachers became popular missionaries in Western Europe, Asia and the Americas.



**4TH AUGUST, ST JOHN VIANNEY**, (8 May 1786 – 4 August 1859), was a French parish [priest](#) who is venerated in the [Catholic Church](#) as a [saint](#) and as the [patron saint](#) of parish priests. He is often referred to as the "*Curé d'Ars*" (i.e., Parish Priest of Ars), internationally known for his priestly and pastoral work in his parish

in [Ars, France](#), because of the radical spiritual transformation of the community and its surroundings. Catholics attribute this to his saintly life, [mortification](#), his persevering ministry in the sacrament of [confession](#), and his ardent devotion to the Blessed Virgin Mary.

**6TH AUGUST, TRANSFIGURATION OF THE LORD** is



an episode in the New Testament narrative in which Jesus is transfigured and becomes radiant upon a mountain. The Synoptic Gospels (Matthew 17:1-9, Mark 9:2-8, Luke 9: 28-36) describe it and 2 Peter

1:16-18 refers to it. On the mountain, Jesus begins to shine with bright rays of light. Then the prophets Moses and Elijah appear next to him and he speaks with them. Jesus is then called "Son" by voice in the sky, assumed to be God the Father, as in the Baptism of Jesus. The transfiguration is one of the five major milestones in the gospel narrative of the life of Jesus, the others being Baptism, Crucifixion, Resurrection, and Ascension. The transfiguration not only supports the identity of Jesus as the Son of God (as in His

Baptism), but the statement "listen to him", identifies him as the messenger and mouth-piece of God. The significance of this identification is enhanced by the presence of Elijah and Moses, for it indicates to the apostles that Jesus is the voice of God "par excellence", and instead of Elijah or Moses, he should be listened to, surpassing the laws of Moses by virtue of his filial relationship with God.



**8TH AUGUST, ST MARY OF THE CROSS MACKILLOP** was born in Fitzroy, Melbourne, in 1842, the eldest child of Scottish immigrants. In 1861 she moved to the small town of Penola in South Australia, where she met Fr Julian Tenison Woods. Together they established Australia's first free Catholic school. In 1866 she co-founded Australia's first religious order, the

Sisters of St Joseph, and took a vow of poverty. Soon there were 17 schools under her care, but Mary's refusal to abide by the rules of the Bishop in Adelaide led to her excommunication from the church. She was accepted back a year later and eventually shown respect by the Bishops for her work with the poor. Mary was beatified by Pope John Paul II in 1995, as a result of a woman who was cured of leukaemia in 1961 after a group offered prayers to Sister Mary. She was canonised by Pope Benedict XVI on 17 October 2010 and is now known as St Mary of the Cross.



**10TH AUGUST, ST LAWRENCE** was a deacon who lived in Rome at a time when Christians were being persecuted. He was closely associated with Pope Sixtus II, who was martyred a few days before Lawrence at the hands of Emperor Valerian. Popular tradition tells of Lawrence's rather gruesome death by fire, although he was most likely executed with a sword, which was

the usual method of capital punishment at the time. He became one of the early church's most popular martyrs and was especially renowned for his alms giving. St Lawrence is a patron of deacons.



**11TH AUGUST, ST CLARE OF ASSISI** was born in Italy in 1194 AD to a wealthy noble family. As a child she was devoted to prayer and at the age of eighteen she heard St Francis of Assisi preach and she was inspired to follow his example, despite the protestations of her family. After living a life of strict poverty with the Benedictine nuns, she eventually lead a new order known as the "Poor Ladies of San Damiano".

For a time the order was directed by St Francis himself, and Clare cared for him in his final days. In 1224 the Prussian King, Frederick II led an army to take the town of Assisi. It is believed that Clare faced the army carrying only the Blessed Sacrament, and that suddenly the army was overcome with fear and fled. Ten years after her death in 1253, her order became known as the Order of St Clare.

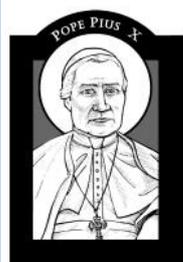
**14TH AUGUST, ST MAXIMILIAN KOLBE** Kolbe is the patron of families, drug addicts, prisoners, journalists, and the pro-life movement. Known for founding the Immaculata Movement and producing the



Knight of the Immaculate magazine. During World War II, Saint Maximilian Kolbe housed over 3000 Polish refugees at his monastery. He was eventually imprisoned and sent to Auschwitz where he experienced constant beatings and terrible jobs. St. Maximilian died in the place of a man with young children who was chosen by the guards for the firing squad.



**15TH AUGUST, THE ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY.** The Feast of the Assumption celebrates the belief that the body and soul of the Blessed Virgin Mary was taken into heaven after the end of her earthly life. Mary's assumption into heaven is seen by many as a fulfilment of Jesus' promise to all faithful servants; that they too will be received into the kingdom of God. Mary is seen as the first disciple of Jesus and a model for all disciples; it is fitting that she receive the gift of discipleship first of all. Belief in the Assumption of Mary had become widespread by the end of the seventh century and was eventually defined in an infallible statement by Pope Pius XII in 1950.



**21ST AUGUST, ST PIUS X,** Giuseppe Sarto was born into a poor family in 1835. From this humble beginning he was eventually elected pope in 1903. He took as his motto, "To restore all things in Christ". Pius X was remembered for many things including advocating the frequent reception of holy communion and the admission to it of children from the age of about seven; reform of church music and encouraging the use of Gregorian chant; the reform of Canon Law; the reorganization of the Roman curia; and the separation of church and state in France. He also promoted Bible reading for all Catholics and encouraged the use of clear and simple homilies. He found some aspects of the Vatican's wealth and ceremony distasteful. Before his death in 1914, Pius X wrote in his will, "I was born poor, I have lived poor, and I wish to die poor."



**22ND AUGUST, THE QUEENSHIP OF MARY** is a Marian feast day in the liturgical calendar of the Roman Catholic Church, created by Pope Pius XII. On 11 October 1954, the Pontiff pronounced the new feast in his encyclical *Ad caeli reginam*. The feast was celebrated on May 31, the last day of the Marian month. The feast is a logical follow-up to the Assumption and is now celebrated on the octave day of that feast. In 1969, Pope Paul VI moved the feast day to 22 August. It has been placed eight days after the Solemnity of the Assumption, in order to emphasize the close bond between Mary's queenship and her glorification in body and soul next to her Son. The Second Vatican Council's Constitution on the Church states that "Mary was taken up body and soul into heavenly glory, and exalted by the Lord as Queen of the universe, that she might be the more fully conformed to her Son" (Lumen Gentium, 59).

**24TH AUGUST, ST BARTHOLOMEW** was one of the twelve apostles, but very little is known about him. Scholars believe that he was the man known as



Nathanael, who was introduced to Jesus by St Philip. In the synoptic Gospels he is named Bartholomew, which means "son of Tolmai". Some believe that he may have preached in India, where a Hebrew copy of Matthew's Gospel was found – believed to have been left by Bartholomew. He is also believed to have preached in Armenia where he was martyred.

**28TH AUGUST, ST AUGUSTINE** was born in 354 in Thagaste (now known as Algeria) to a pagan father and a Christian mother – St Monica. In a search for truth he explored many philosophies and theologies, though he rejected Christianity. In Milan, he heard Bishop Ambrose preach and in 387 he and his son were baptised by him. He returned to Northern Africa and established a monastic community and in 391 was ordained a priest. Five years later, Ambrose was chosen bishop of Hippo and for thirty-four years he served his diocese with authority and compassion. His vast writings (more than one-hundred books and five-hundred sermons) earned him the title, doctor of the church.



**29TH AUGUST, THE PASSION OF ST JOHN THE BAPTIST,** most scholars agree that John baptised Jesus. Scholars generally believe Jesus was a follower or disciple of John and several New Testament accounts report that some of Jesus' early followers had previously been followers of John. John the Baptist is also mentioned by Jewish historian Josephus. Some scholars maintain that John was influenced by the semi-ascetic Essenes, who expected an apocalypse and practiced rituals corresponding strongly with baptism, although no direct evidence substantiates this. According to the New Testament, John anticipated a messianic figure greater than himself, and Jesus was the one whose coming John foretold. Christians commonly refer to John as the precursor or forerunner of Jesus, since John announces Jesus' coming. John is also identified with the prophet Elijah. In the gospel account of John's death, Herod has John imprisoned for denouncing his incestuous marriage, and later executes John by beheading. John condemned Herod for marrying Herodias (who was not only his brother Philip's former wife but also Herod's niece) in violation of Old Testament law. Later Herodias's daughter (traditionally thought to be Salome, who was Herod's grand-niece and stepdaughter) dances before Herod, who offers her a favour in return. Herodias tells her to ask for the head of John the Baptist, which is delivered to her on a plate (Mark 6:14-29).



Please note not all memorial, solemnities, feasts for August are listed

Some others are: 2/8 ST EUSEBIUS OF VERCELLI; ST PETER JULIAN EYMARD; 5/8 DEDICATION OF THE BASILICA OF ST MARY MAJOR IN ROME; 7/8 ST SIXTUS II & COMPANIONS; ST CAJETAN; 12/8 ST JANE FRANCES DE CHANTAL; 13/8 STS PONTIAN & HIPPOLYTUS; 19/8 ST JOHN EUDES; 20/8 ST BERNARD OF CLAIRVAUX; 25/8 ST LOUIS, ST JOSEPH CALASANZ; 27/8 ST MONICA

## July 2020 - Colleen Canny Reporting

Hi everyone, I hope all are well and safe. Mass at St Paul's has resumed over the last three weeks. Our numbers returning to Mass have been reduced, some of our parishioners, following the protocol of isolation, resulting in their medical conditions and aging.

**A big thank you to our grade 6 from St Paul's Primary School, for preparing the church, and cleaning, this was very much appreciated.**

**Congratulations to Gabrielle Dixon Year Seven, and Jackson Buckley Year Eleven, both students from St Paul's who achieved high achievement awards at St Josephs Lochinvar, term one. Well done.**

Our cheerio calls continue as many of our parishioners are housebound, and prayers continue for our Parish. We have had a call from Imogene's Family to inform us she has returned to hospital with dehydration and infection. So we will continue to keep her on our prayer list.

**A big thank you to our parishioners, for their support for the Winter Appeal, many taking warm clothing and blankets to the St Vincent de Paul Shop in Maitland.**

*Recently one of our parishioners gave me a small card, to highlight what prayer meant to her.*

### **BECAUSE YOU SAID A PRAYER FOR ME**

**Because you said a prayer for me my view of life is brighter,  
and darkness seems to fade away, my burdens seem much lighter  
Because you took time to pray for me my joy returned  
To say the world is full of hurt today,  
but lives can be touched because of prayer  
Thank you for caring**

During the month of July we celebrated **Naidoc Week**. It is a celebration held across Australia each July. The week highlights the history, culture and achievements, of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders.

Father Paul spoke about his experience he had when he was in Taree, and his involvement with the Aboriginal Community. He also spoke about one of the Aboriginal Elders who accompanied him to various Masses he celebrated each Sunday.

The following Sunday we had the pleasure of Father John Purnell celebrating Mass. Fr John is from Halls Creek, and has a connection with the Aboriginal Community. We all found this very interesting, listening to Father's stories, and his devotion to the Aboriginal community. Father wore his vestments, representing the Aborigine art and design, really very beautiful.

I spoke to Meryl McIntyre who is a Worimi Woman from the Karuah region regarding the Aboriginal Message Stick. The Message Stick is taken to the Altar on special Feast days and special occasions, such as Christ the King, Naidoc Week, and Aboriginal Week. Meryl said the highlight for her was the recognition of the Sorry Day Anniversary, highlighting the hard work achieved by her people. The stick is beautifully illustrated in its design. We are very fortunate to have Meryl McIntyre to represent our Parish with this rich and beautiful culture.



***We continue to pray for the virus to be controlled, and a vaccine to be found.***

**A big thank you to Tony Seamer and his Parish Council Committee for the amazing achievement in the arranging and preparing for the celebration of Mass at St Paul's.**

*To register for Mass at St Paul's Rutherford - Gabby Fishlock 0422 086 991*

*God Bless*



## FAREWELL JOHN & SHIRLEY:

It was with much sadness that the parishioners of Our Lady of Lourdes bid farewell to John and Shirley Prichard on Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> July. Both John and Shirley have been very active members of our Church and, in earlier days, of our school community, over the past fifty years.



We thank them most sincerely for their tremendous contribution and wish them every happiness in their new home at Fern Bay.

John and Shirley  
you will be greatly missed by us all.



**COLLECTION OF REFUNDABLE CANS / BOTTLES HAS RESUMED.** Two 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. The collected cans and bottles will be taken to the Return & Earn refund collection station and the refund deposited into our Special Purpose Account.

## **Good to go: most drink bottles and cans**

These containers are most commonly found as litter in NSW.

They are often consumed 'on the go.'

- Cans (e.g. soft drinks)
- Bottles (e.g. beer bottles)
  - Cartons
  - Juice boxes or poppers

Most containers between 150ml and 3 litres are accepted and can get

**However, they must...**

- **Be in good condition (not be crushed or broken)**
  - **Be empty**
  - **Have the label attached**



## **No go: items that are not refundable**

These items are not accepted but can still go into household recycling. They are often used at home.

- Milk containers
- Glass wine bottles
- Glass spirit bottles
- Juice bottles over 1 litre
  - Cordial bottles



**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. The church will be open from 9.00am till 10.30am each Friday morning.

**POLISH MASS:** Polish Mass will be celebrated at OLOL Church, **every Sunday at 9.00am.**

**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 25<sup>th</sup> August at 10.00am in the Parish meeting room.** You are warmly invited to join us.

**PARISH PASTORAL TEAM MEETING:** - Next meeting - **Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> August, at 7.00pm.** Meetings are being conducted via zoom until further notice.

Have a wonderful month! Stay safe, stay well!

## The History of the Catholic Church in the Maitland area Part 14 - Beresfield Parish

The original Our Lady of Lourdes church was built in Tarro. It was blessed and opened on July 22, 1923. The area was part of East Maitland Parish until the parish obtained its own status in October 1947 when the parochial district of Tarro was established. Fr M. Hanrahan was appointed as priest in charge and served the parish for 25 years.

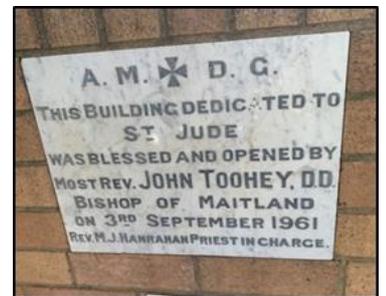


The Sisters of Mercy, who were based at East Maitland, established a school at Tarro in September 1944 and taught the students in the Tarro Church. On June 29, 1948 a new school for the Sisters of Mercy was opened and on November 14, 1948 a new presbytery was blessed and opened by Bishop Toohey.

In 1946 a small timber church at Thornton was blessed and opened by Fr G. P. Youll. The church, dedicated to St Patrick was administered from East Maitland.

At Beresfield, on 3<sup>rd</sup> September 1961 Bishop John Toohey blessed and opened a building dedicated to St Jude to be used as a mass centre. The building was formerly a hospital hut that was built at the Greta military complex and used during the Second World War. It was transported from Greta and erected in the vicinity of the present Beresfield parish church.

A new presbytery was located in Beresfield, the first presbytery at Tarro being sold in 1973.



The new church of Our Lady of Lourdes at Beresfield was blessed and opened by Bishop Leo Clarke on October 9, 1977. The Parish of Beresfield, which was formerly known as the parish of Tarro, embraced the parochial districts of Beresfield, Woodberry, Thornton and Tarro. St Judes was still standing at the time of the opening of the new church as it was where refreshments were served following the opening ceremony.



The original Our Lady of Lourdes church has been refurbished and is now used as the assembly hall and school mass centre for OLOL Primary school at Tarro. A number of the stained glass windows have been gifted by the students of OLOL.



The last resident parish priest of Beresfield was Fr Ron Picken who had a keen sense of humour and was well loved by his parishioners. Today, Beresfield parish is a part of the Chisholm Pastoral Region with Fr Paul as shared parish priest.

*to be continued.....*

# Parish News - St Joseph's East Maitland

At the time of writing (22<sup>nd</sup> July) St Joseph's church is allowed to accommodate 100 people at our Masses. Names and contact details of attendees need to be recorded especially in the current COVID-19 circumstances. The latest NSW Health advice regarding our local area should be considered if planning to go out. **If you are feeling unwell or vulnerable you are encouraged to stay at home.**

Prior booking to attend Mass is very important especially as the numbers who attend are increasing. We do not want to get to the situation where we have to turn people away. If you wish to attend mass at St Joseph's please use the online booking system <https://www.trybooking.com/BJWZV> or telephone Judy 49348232 or 0412689517 and a booking can be made for you. Online registrations for morning Masses close at 8pm the evening prior to the Mass and for evening Masses at 3.30pm on the day of the Mass. Telephone bookings can be made up to 30 minutes before Mass. Please contact Judy if you need more information.

- ❖ The **Parish Team** met on Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> July. We have applied for a Heritage Grant from Maitland City Council to help with the cost of repairing the brick fence that borders the church grounds, which has several major cracks caused by ground movement. The Therry Centre repairs were also on the agenda. Before the COVID-19 lock down, a plumbing firm inspected the drains and found some cracked and broken pipes. We are waiting on a quote for the cost to repair the drains. This work needs to be done before moving forward with further remedial work. An engineer has inspected the Therry Centre and we are waiting on his report.

As we are moving into another uncertain period with regard to COVID-19, please reach out to the lonely and vulnerable especially your fellow parishioners. Drop a copy of the church bulletin into their letterbox or give them a call. Please continue to pray for each other, for our nation and for the world. Pray the Rosary and ask Our Lady to intercede for us.

☪☪☪☪ ☪☪☪☪ ☪☪☪☪

- ✠ **St Joseph's Church East Maitland**, will be open for private prayer in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday from 9.30am to 10.30am and on Friday following 7.00am Mass to 9.00am. Name and contact details will need to be provided. ALL WELCOME.
- ✠ **Parousia CD's** available for purchase in the side porch.
- ✠ **Midday Eucharistic Adoration** – Mondays 12 midday for 1 hour in the church.
- ✠ **Cenacle Rosary of the Marian Movement of Priests** to pray for priests and Divine Mercy Chaplet followed by a cup of tea – Wednesday night 7.00pm at 2 Erin Close, Ashtonfield. Phone: 0449762976
- ✠ **Apostolate of Prayer to St Joseph of the Eternal Family** – first Wednesday of the month 7pm followed by a cup of tea. 2 Erin Close, Ashtonfield. Phone: 0449762976
- ✠ **Legion of Mary** "Our Lady of Perpetual Succour Praesidium" – Tuesday morning, 10.30am, 79 Banks St, East Maitland. Phone: 4905 2144



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206 Wollombi Road, Cessnock

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24 Hours, 7 Days  
[creightonsfuneralservice.com.au](https://creightonsfuneralservice.com.au)

**Sacred Heart, Campbell's Hill: To register for Mass please contact Judy Crittenden 0412 821 505 or Carole Wickham 0429 328 127**

**Holy Family, Largs :** Rosary will be held each Monday at 1pm. *You do need to register for this activity. Please contact Lynette Huckstadt 0408 329 495.*

To register for Mass, please contact  
Sunday 8.20am contact Terry O'Brien 0429 727 704 or email [terryob1956@gmail.com](mailto:terryob1956@gmail.com)  
Wednesday 7pm contact Yvonne Rohr 0432 550 986 or email [yrohr@gmail.com](mailto:yrohr@gmail.com)

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: Sunday Mass 9.30am Please ring Maryanne or Bill O'Connor 0409 336 993**

## Parish News - St Patrick's Lochinvar

*Sunday Mass 9.30am  
To register please ring Tony Towers 0437 280 147 / 4932 0208*



Mindfulness is a proven technique used to reduce stress and help people cope with tough times. Here is an article that explains it further and outlines the benefits.

<https://beyou.edu.au/fact-sheets/wellbeing/mindfulness>

### THANKSGIVING PRAYER

FATHER IN HEAVEN,  
CREATOR OF ALL AND SOURCE OF ALL GOODNESS AND LOVE,  
PLEASE LOOK KINDLY UPON US  
AND RECEIVE OUR HEARTFELT GRATITUDE IN THIS TIME OF GIVING THANKS.

THANK YOU FOR ALL THE GRACES AND BLESSINGS.  
YOU HAVE BETOWED UPON US, SPIRITUAL AND TEMPORAL:  
OUR FAITH AND RELIGIOUS HERITAGE.  
OUR FOOD AND SHELTER,  
OUR HEALTH,  
THE LOVES WE HAVE FOR ONE ANOTHER,  
OUR FAMILY AND FRIENDS.

DEAR FATHER, IN YOUR INFINITE CENEROSITY,  
PLEASE GRANT US CONTINUED GRACES AND BLESSING THROUGHOUT THE COMING YEAR.

THIS WE ASK IN THE NAME OF JESUS, YOUR SON AND OUR BROTHER.

AMEN

*Give Thanks*

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SUNDAY MASSES : 7.15am Sunday / 9.00am Wednesday  
To register please ring John Saunders 4934 8520 / 0414 254 230

Unfortunately Covid is still with us and we are being called upon to be ever vigilant and responsible as individuals going about our daily lives. Thankfully with the lifting of some restrictions we have been able to increase our Mass attendance numbers to 60 for Sunday. We don't know how long current restrictions will remain in place but until now we have been fortunate to have an additional Mass on Wednesdays at 9am. This Mass is for the previous Sunday and is available to all who cannot attend the Sunday Mass because of the restricted numbers. It is also available to all those who wish to attend, limited once again to the 60 attendees; just give John Saunders a call to register if you wish to attend.

During this time of lock down we have missed out on many social events and community gatherings planned for the year. However, be rest assured that we will make up for it once the pandemic settles down and we can get back to more social interaction.

From now on bookings for the Corcoran Centre are to be made by contacting the Chisholm Office. *A special thanks must go to Nerida Kaal, who for many years has managed the bookings and ensured that the Centre was always clean and tidy.*

In these uncertain times we are being called upon to be mindful of one another and use Common Sense. However, I read recently an obituary to Common Sense which is worth reflecting on as we sit and ponder the changes taking place in our world today.

## **AN OBITUARY PRINTED IN THE LONDON TIMES**

Today we mourn the passing of a beloved old friend, Common Sense, who has been with us for many years. No one knows for sure how old he was, since his birth records were long ago lost in bureaucratic red tape.

He will be remembered as having cultivated such valuable lessons as:

- Knowing when to come in out of the rain;
- Why the early bird gets the worm;
- Life isn't always fair;
- And maybe it was my fault.

Common Sense lived by simple, sound financial policies (don't spend more than you can earn) and reliable strategies (adults, not children, are in charge).

His health began to deteriorate rapidly when well-intentioned but overbearing regulations were set in place. Reports of a 6-year-old boy charged with sexual harassment for kissing a classmate; teens suspended from school for using mouthwash after lunch; and a teacher fired for reprimanding an unruly student, only worsened his condition.

Common Sense lost ground when parents attacked teachers for doing the job that they themselves had failed to do in disciplining their unruly children.

It declined even further when schools were required to get parental consent to administer sun lotion or an aspirin to a student; but could not inform parents when a student became pregnant and wanted to have an abortion.

Common Sense lost the will to live as the churches became businesses; and criminals received better treatment than their victims.

Common Sense took a beating when you couldn't defend yourself from a burglar in your own home and the burglar could sue you for assault.

Common Sense finally gave up the will to live, after a woman failed to realise that a steaming cup of coffee was hot. She spilled a little in her lap, and was promptly awarded a huge settlement.

Common Sense was preceded in death,

- by his parents, Truth and Trust,
- by his wife, Discretion,
- by his daughter, Responsibility,
- and by his son, Reason.

He is survived by his 5 stepchildren;

- I Know My Rights
- I Want It Now
- Someone Else Is To Blame
- I'm A Victim
- Pay me for Doing Nothing

*Not many attended his funeral because so few realised he was gone.  
If you still remember him, pass this on. If not, join the majority and do nothing.*

# Resuming ACTiv8 Youth Groups

## Youth Groups are back!

We have had a long break from youth groups but we are very pleased to have welcomed back youth groups into our communities for term 3.

Youth groups will look and feel a little different for the rest of the year with the rapidly changing government restrictions and guidelines but for now we are back together and doing our very best to keep everyone safe but with the same sense of fun and love for Jesus.

On Monday 21<sup>st</sup> July 21, 2020 we welcomed back our senior youth group and we kicked off in our new youth group room at 302 High St, Maitland. Our new youth room has some wonderful breakout spaces including lounges, ping pong table, study zone and a large dining table. We look forward to creating an environment with our young people where they can encounter God and explore faith while still being social and have fun.



Coronavirus has changed the way we greet others and has meant fewer hugs for us all. This week at youth groups we are making hugs to give to someone special. We traced and cut out our hands and joined them with ribbon the length of our arms.



**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.

You will need a treasure box (this could be a box or container lined with a piece of fabric), paper and pens or pencils.

Family members write on a piece of paper something or someone that is precious to them. Add this 'treasure' to the family treasure box, explaining what makes the thing or person a treasure.

Now think about the treasures of being a follower of Jesus, write these on a piece of paper and add them to the treasure box, explaining what makes them a treasure.

# GOD'S LOVE: MORE PRECIOUS THAN A BURIED TREASURE



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**Ordinary Time** is the period in which God reveals to us the face of Christ through the eyes of Matthew, Mark and Luke. In the 33 (sometimes 34) Sundays of Ordinary Time, some of which occur between Christmas and Lent (depending on the date set for Easter) and the remainder after Pentecost, we get on with the day-to-day faithful living of the Gospel.

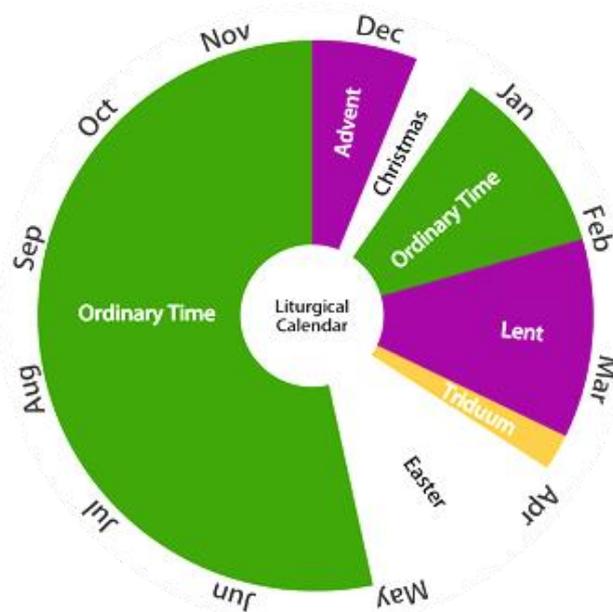
The difference is that whereas the other Seasons of the Liturgy are focussed on one major faith event, Ordinary Time simply follows the Gospels. During this period, we hear a semi-continuous proclamation of the Scriptures over the 3-year cycle. It's as if the evangelists are our guides. Each year, one of them will lead us deeper into the mystery of the mission of Christ in the world.

**In Year A:** We meet Jesus the great teacher as introduced by Matthew. In Matthew's gospel, we find Christ actively present through the Church and the Sacraments.

**In Year B:** Mark shows us the mystery of Christ as truly divine and truly human – Son of God and Son of Man. Mark calls us into a response of faith by which we radically choose to leave all to follow Christ and become willing to share our conviction with others.

**In Year C:** The 'social' gospel of Luke lays before us the practical meaning of following

Christ. Luke outlines the role of the disciple and the cost of discipleship in our loving response to the needy and the outcast of society. Luke assures us that the Holy Spirit is always with us as *we* try to become Good News for our world.



*Where, then, is the gospel of John?* While there is no 'year' of John, the Church reflects each year on John's gospel during the Christmas and Easter cycles. John's gospel gives us a deeper appreciation of the meaning of the birth, death and resurrection of Jesus. He teaches us that Christ is the very source of our life in God.

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