**Bulletin Notices:**

**New updates**

1. **Blessed Carlo Acutis Exhibition**

It is with great excitement that Bishop Michael Kennedy has organised an international exhibition of Blessed Carlo Acutis to visit our Diocese this week.

It is set up in the Toohey and Dwyer Rooms at 841 Hunter Street, Newcastle West and will remain there until 1pm Friday 7 March. The exhibition can accommodate groups of up to 20 people at a time and will be open from 9am - 5pm daily (except Friday). On Tuesday and Thursday the exhibition will be open for an extended period until 8pm.

Follow the link below to book for your group. Individuals can come at any time whilst the exhibition is open.

<https://forms.office.com/r/XEmSJxQ88R>

1. **Jubilee Art Exhibition – Saturday 31 May**

Members of the Diocesan community are invited to create an artwork focusing on the theme - “Hope does not disappoint” (Rom 5:5). Winning entries will travel across the Diocese in a travelling exhibition during the Jubilee Year.

**Entry Categories:** A. Primary School B. High School C. Adult
**Prize for each Category:** 1st Prize - $500, 2nd Prize - $250, 3rd Prize - $100
**Key dates:**

* Friday 9 May - Registration of artworks Jubilee Art Exhibition
* Saturday 31 May - Exhibition Opening: 2pm-4pm, Veritas Centre, San Clement Catholic College, Mayfield

**Requirements:**Artworks created on A4 paper (only) leaving a 2cm boarder for framing. Any medium suitable for a 2D artwork on paper can be used. Artist Statement – maximum 250 words –describe how your artwork connects with the theme, ‘Hope does not disappoint, because God’s love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us (Rom 5:1-2.5)’.
**Enquires:** rose.mcallister@mn.catholic.org.au

1. **Meditation Retreat Morning**

You are invited to come along to the Diocesan Resource Centre from 9.30am to 12pm on Saturday 29 March for a Meditation Retreat Morning. The cost is $10, and morning tea will be provided. Email annecuskelly@hotmail.com for more information.

**Opportunities included in previous notices**

1. **Diocesan Pilgrimage 2025**

Join us on pilgrimage this Jubilee Year with Bishop Michael Kennedy as we visit the biblical sites and spiritual heights of Greece, Turkey and Italy from 25 September -12 October. Scan the QR code or visit [www.mn.catholic.org.au](https://aus01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.mn.catholic.org.au%2F&data=05%7C02%7CElizabeth.Symington%40mn.catholic.org.au%7C1f452f57b92c46887dd608dd4f9915f9%7Ce75462c772464f49b60e47a498eea9d6%7C0%7C0%7C638754241114230545%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJFbXB0eU1hcGkiOnRydWUsIlYiOiIwLjAuMDAwMCIsIlAiOiJXaW4zMiIsIkFOIjoiTWFpbCIsIldUIjoyfQ%3D%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=8tKjREL%2BG9PLMQ3O2CYlnjur1OLbT0yffWY91EVkK5g%3D&reserved=0) and click the *2025 Jubilee Year Information* tile for more information, the application form, and costings.



1. **Diocesan Resource Centre March events**

Address**:** 12 Tudor Street – Newcastle West (Cnr Parry Street)

**Friday 7 March – Formation Friday – Indulgences – 1pm**

Meet with other community members via Zoom or in the Diocesan Resource Centre Library for a chance to reflect and discuss seasons, moments and mysteries of the church and our faith. Register using QR code or email domnlibrary@mn.catholic.org.au



**Friday 28 March – Human Library – 10am**Our “Human Books” will discuss Pilgrimage, the good and bad, what they learned and how it made them feel. Showing images and answering questions, you will be immersed in Pilgrimage. Register using QR code or email domnlibrary@mn.catholic.org.au



1. **Rite of Election – Sunday 9 March**

The Rite of Election on Sunday 9 March 2025 is an opportunity to welcome all catechumens who will be baptised in their parishes at the Easter Vigil [a catechumen is an unbaptised person whose search for meaning has brought them to the Catholic Church]. Please join in witness and prayerful support of those who choose to be Catholic within this Jubilee Year of Hope. It starts at 2.30pm at Sacred Heart Cathedral Newcastle West, followed by afternoon tea. RSVP for catering to E mission@mn.catholic.org.au. Enquiries to Fiona P 0408 895 951.

1. **Art and Spirituality Days**

We will be hosting two Art and Spirituality Days in 2025 on Friday 4 April and Friday 12 September at the Kilaben Bay Community Centre (140 Wangi Road, Kilaben Bay). Participants will engage in art-making experiences that will nourish their faith.

**Cost:** $25. BYO lunch. Morning tea will be provided.

**Registration:** <https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/1235249708129>

For further information contact Rose McAllister on rose.mcallister@mn.catholic.org.au

1. **Lenten Reflection – Journey of Hope**

Lent is often portrayed as a journey from one point in time to another, this time allows us to deeply reflect internally so our external actions imitate the resurrection and living God. Lent is a penitential period when we attempt to develop an awareness of sin and our need for penance and forgiveness. This journey assists us in our transformation as we move from one state to another, a state that is renewed by hope in the Paschal Mystery, so we truly understand why the risen Jesus matters.

As we enter Lent during the 2025 Jubilee Year, Pilgrims of Hope, let us use this time as an opportunity to reflect and seek forgiveness so we can experience the unlimited nature of God’s Mercy. You are invited to use this resource to reveal the mystery of God each week through the scriptures, faith sharing, and consider how we are called to be constant companions in the journey of hope.

To access the resource, go to: <https://www.mn.catholic.org.au/media/7345/0007121-dio-2024-lenten-program-web-v2.pdf>

1. **Register Your Interest for the 2025 National Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Catholic Tri-Annual Assembly**

Every three years, the National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Catholic Council (NATSICC) hosts a National Tri-Annual Assembly. In 2025, the Catholic Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle is honoured to host this gathering on the lands of the Wonnarua people at Rydges Hunter Valley from Monday 29 September to Friday 3 October 2025.

With the theme “Pilgrims of Hope,” inspired by Pope Francis’ Jubilee Year, this Assembly promises to be a meaningful event. The success of the assembly relies heavily on the Host Diocese and our generosity and/or attendance.

Complete this form to register your interest in attending or volunteering: <https://forms.office.com/r/5XDUHy3Vrc>

Enquiries can be sent to mission@mn.catholic.org.au

**Ongoing opportunities**

1. Live stream Mass every Sunday at 9.30am at [www.mn.catholic.org.au/places/live-stream](http://www.mn.catholic.org.au/places/live-stream)

**Useful Links**Here are some useful links and resources that may be new to you. Feel free to share with parish contacts or publish in parish bulletins (as appropriate):

* [Liturgy page](http://www.mn.catholic.org.au/catholic-faith/liturgy) – regularly updated
* [Faith formation page](https://www.mn.catholic.org.au/church-mission/catholic-life/adult-faith-formation/) – regularly updated
* [MNnews.today](http://mnnews.today) – Diocesan News Service
* [DoMN Library](https://www.mn.catholic.org.au/places/library/)
* [Subscribe to DioUpdate eNewsletter](http://www.mn.catholic.org.au/news-events/diocesan-e-news)
* [*Aurora* Magazine articles online](http://www.mn.catholic.org.au/news-events/aurora)