



**PARISH OFFICE : 302 High St Maitland**  
Tuesday - Friday 9.30am - 4.30pm  
Lunch 1pm to 1.30pm  
Phone: 49338918  
P.O. Box 215 Maitland 2320  
chisholm@mn.catholic.org.au  
<https://maitlandcatholicparishes.org.au/>

**ST JOSEPH'S** (Est 1835), Cnr King St & New England Hwy, East Maitland  
Vigil 5.00pm; Sunday 8.30am  
Youth Mass 6.00pm

**ST JOHN THE BAPTIST** (Est 1841) Maitland  
**SACRED HEART**, New England Hwy, Campbell's Hill - Vigil 6.30pm.  
**HOLY FAMILY**, 11 John St, Largs Sunday 8.20am.  
**ST COLUMBA'S**, Cnr Prince & Church Sts, Paterson - Sunday 9.30am

**IMMACULATE CONCEPTION** (Est 1871) Cnr George & James Sts, Morpeth  
Sunday 7.15am. Registrations - John 4934 8520 / 0414 254 230

**ST PATRICK'S** (Est 1905), 55 New England Hwy, Lochinvar-Sunday 9.30am.

**OUR LADY OF LOURDES** (Est 1947), Cnr Anderson Dr & Delprat Ave, Beresfield  
Vigil 6.00pm.

**ST PAUL'S** (Est 1961), 10 Young St, Rutherford - Sunday 8.00am.

#### Ministers

All baptised members of the community

#### Ministry Team

**Parish Priest:** Fr George Anthonicad  
**Asst Priests:** Fr John Lovell & Fr Graham Fullick  
(Presbytery 4934 5783)

#### Support Clergy

Fr Maurice Cahill

#### Regional Office

Louise Gilchrist, Janine Sidoti, Sandra Buck, Rebecca Piefke

#### ACTiv8 Youth Co-ordinator

Rebecca Piefke 0422 500 429

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

**Dying, Bereaved & Funeral Ministry:**  
0428 220 997

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.

### **Entrance Antiphon**

After the Lord was baptized, the heavens were opened, and the Spirit descended upon him like a dove, and the voice of the Father thundered: This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased.

### **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, 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** Is 40:1-5. 9-11

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

*The glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all people shall see it.*

'Console my people, console them' says your God. 'Speak to the heart of Jerusalem and call to her that her time of service is ended, that her sin is atoned for, that she has received from the hand of the Lord double punishment for all her crimes.' A voice cries, 'Prepare in the wilderness a way for the Lord. Make a straight highway for our God across the desert. Let every valley be filled in, every mountain and hill be laid low, let every cliff become a plain, and the ridges a valley; then the glory of the Lord shall be revealed and all mankind shall see it; for the mouth of the Lord has spoken.' Go up on a high mountain, joyful messenger to Zion. Shout with a loud voice, joyful messenger to Jerusalem. Shout without fear, say to the towns of Judah, 'Here is your God.' Here is the Lord coming with power, his arm subduing all things to him. The prize of his victory is with him, his trophies all go before him. He is like a shepherd feeding his flock, gathering lambs in his arms, holding them against his breast and leading to their rest the mother ewes.

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

**Resp. Psalm** Ps 103:1-2. 3-4. 24-25. 27-30.  
R. v.1

**Oh, bless the Lord, my soul!**

Lord God, how great you are,

clothed in majesty and glory, wrapped in light as in a robe!  
You stretch out the heavens like a tent.  
(R.)

Above the rains you build your dwelling. You make the clouds your chariot, you walk on the wings of the wind, you make the winds your messengers and flashing fire your servants. (R.)

How many are your works, O Lord!  
In wisdom you have made them all. The earth is full of your riches. There is the sea, vast and wide, with its moving swarms past counting, living things great and small. (R.)

All of these look to you to give them their food in due season. You give it, they gather it up: you open your hand, they have their fill. (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.)

**Second Reading** Ti 2:11-14; 3:4-7

A reading from the letter of St Paul to Titus

God's grace has been revealed, and it has made salvation possible for the whole human race and taught us that what we have to do is to give up everything that does not lead to God, and all our worldly ambitions; we must be self-restrained and live good and religious lives here in this present world, while we are waiting in hope for the blessing which will come with the Appearing of the glory of our great God and saviour Christ Jesus. He sacrificed himself for us in order to set us free from all wickedness and to purify a people so that it could be his very own and would have no ambition except to do good. When the kindness and love of God our saviour for mankind were revealed, it was not because he was concerned with any righteous actions we might have done ourselves; it was for no reason except his own compassion that he saved us, by means of the cleansing water of rebirth and by renewing us with the Holy Spirit which he has so generously poured over us through Jesus Christ our saviour. He did this so that we should be justified by his grace, to become heirs looking forward to inheriting eternal life.

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

## **Gospel Acclamation**

Alleluia, alleluia!

John said: He who is to come is mightier than I; he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and with fire.

Alleluia!

## **Gospel**

Lk 3:15-16. 21-22

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

*When Jesus had been baptised and had been praying, the heavens were opened and the Holy Spirit came upon him.*

A feeling of expectancy had grown among the people, who were beginning to think that John might be the Christ, so John declared before them all, 'I baptise you with water, but someone is coming, someone who is more powerful than I am, and I am not fit to undo the strap of his sandals; he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and fire.' Now when all the people had been baptised and while Jesus after his own baptism was at prayer, heaven opened and the Holy Spirit descended on him in bodily shape, like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, 'You are my Son, the Beloved; my favour rests on you.'

**The Gospel of the Lord  
Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ**

### **REFLECTION by Fr Michael Tate**

#### ***Jesus' Baptism is Ours***

What did it mean for Jesus to come up out of the waters of the Jordan to experience the special presence of the Holy Spirit as though it were a dove, gently hovering over him? As a Jew, he would have been reminded both of the Divine Wind hovering over the void-become-creation, and of the dove bearing an olive twig as God restored humanity's life on earth after the Flood. The Holy Spirit was empowering Him for a re-creative role on behalf of humanity.

His second experience was to sense God's delight and joy sounding, reverberating through every fibre of his body, every reach of his soul: 'You are my beloved Son, my favour rests on you.'

Any baby, any adolescent, any adult who is baptised shares in these wonderful experiences. The dynamic power of the Holy Spirit hovers over the person as a gentle presence, preparing the one baptised for a mission on behalf of humanity. And every baptised person senses, below the range of hearing, the echo of the same marvellous words: "You are my beloved son or daughter, my favour rests on you."

Is it any wonder that Our Lord adopted this water rite to incorporate his followers into such wonderful experiences as a power-full impetus to fulfil their mission to cooperate in God's saving plan for humanity?

We could take a moment to pray in gratitude for the parent/s or other person/s who brought us into this tradition stretching over almost two millennia. May they be filled with all that flows from their being beloved sons and daughters of God.

© Fr Michael Tate; mtate@bigpond.com

Rev Prof Michael Tate graduated in Law from the University of Tasmania in 1968, and in Theology from Oxford University in 1971. He lectured at the University of Tasmania from 1972-78, being Dean of the Faculty of Law in 1977-78. He was a Senator for Tasmania from 1978-93, being Federal Minister for Justice from 1987-93. He served as Ambassador to The Hague and the Holy See from 1993-96. He then returned to Australia and was ordained in May 2000 and has been a parish priest in the Archdiocese of Hobart since then. He is an Honorary Professor of Law at the University of Tasmania where he lectures in International Humanitarian Law.

### **The Nicene Creed**

I believe in one God,  
the Father almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all things visible and invisible.  
I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ,  
the Only Begotten Son of God,  
born of the Father before all ages.  
God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God,  
begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father;  
through him all things were made.  
For us men and for our salvation  
he came down from heaven *(All Bow)*  
and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin  
Mary, and became man.  
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate,  
he suffered death and was buried,  
and rose again on the third day

in accordance with the Scriptures.

He ascended into heaven  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory  
to judge the living and the dead  
and his kingdom will have no end.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
who with the Father and the Son is adored and  
glorified,

who has spoken through the prophets.  
I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church.

I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins  
and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead  
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

## **UNIVERSAL PRAYERS**

**Celebrant:** Jesus who was without sin, was Baptised in the river Jordon by John. Let us remember that we too are Baptised by the Holy Spirit and join us with the Holy Family of God.

We pray for Leaders of our Church and for the Priests, Deacons and Religious of our Dioceses, that they be given the courage and strength to continue to spread the word of Jesus to all God's children. . . . We pray. . . . **Lord graciously hear us.**

By the grace of Baptism help us to overcome sin and to renew our lives in Christ and take up our cross and follow where He leads us . . . .We pray. . . . **Lord graciously hear us.**

We pray for those in our community who do not attend Eucharist, to join us on the adventure in deepening our relationship with God today! May we be Your trustworthy instrument and follow Your Holy Word. . . . We pray. . . . **Lord graciously hear us.**

We ask the Holy Spirit to be vigilant in the minds of the leaders of our country as they discuss the Euthanasia Bill and make them remember that life is precious and it is given to us by God. . . . . We pray. . . . **Lord graciously hear us.**

We pray for all Christian communities that in their hearts, they have the hope in God's love and walk in His ways. . . . . We pray. . . . **Lord graciously hear us.**

We pray for those who have lost hope in the faith of Jesus, and those not well. May our prayers go out to them and they feel the love of our community in their time of loneliness. . . . . We pray. . . . **Lord graciously hear us.**

For our relatives and friends who have gone before us, we give thanks for their faith they have shown us during their time with us. May they now enjoy the promise of Eternal life in the company of our Loving Father. . . We pray. . . **Lord graciously hear us.**

**Celebrant:** God we rejoice in the Baptism of Your Son, give us the graces to continue in Your work through our own baptism. We ask this through Jesus your Son who lives and reigns with You in heaven.

### **Communion Antiphon**

Behold the One of whom John said: I have seen and testified that this is the Son of God.

### **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.*

### ***We pray those who have died this week***

#### ***We remember those whose Anniversaries occur around this time including***

Harold Doherty Snr, Gladys Douglas, Cletus Grant, Alphonsus Gurr

#### ***We pray for those who are sick at this time***

Angeles Adapon, Dalisay Almanza, Teresa Almanza, Arabella Rae Arroyo, Joseph Austin, Cynthia Appleton, Judy Mary Carmody, Olga Charlton, Robyn Chesworth, Kerry Copus, Marion & Luke Crotty, Nicholas Dilley, Brigid Field, Pam French, Melinda Grainger, Vince Gurr, Anne & Peter Hardy, Leanne Hardy, Julie Hartigan, John Hogan, Ken Jones, Ethan Joseph, Krystyna Kulzcznski, Fr Anthony Lemon ( Murwillumbah), Michael Lockyer, Sharon Martin, Kevin Moloney, Lisa Peattie, Terry Prouse, Ella Rusak, Olga Rusak, Jane Winsor O'Keefe, Amelia Verdera Satana, Margaret Sipple, Zane Slomka, Steven Small, Anne Standing, Carol Su'a, John Szczudluk, Vivian Tee, Kathleen Tuckerman, Bill Temperley, Veronica Tuck, Robert Wild, Jo Winkler

#### ***We pray for those children who will be Baptised this weekend***

WEEKLY BULLETIN - 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.

The Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle has an abiding commitment to promote the safety, welfare and wellbeing of children and vulnerable adults. Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility if you have any concerns for a child or vulnerable adult please contact the Office of Safeguarding: P 4979 1390 or E [childprotection@mn.catholic.org.au](mailto:childprotection@mn.catholic.org.au) or visit their website for further information [www.officeofsafeguarding.org.au](http://www.officeofsafeguarding.org.au)

As of the date of printing, 22/12/22, we hope to open the Parish Office on 11th January 2022. This is all dependent on the covid situation closer to the time. Thank you for understanding.

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## WEEKDAY MASS ROSTER

### Mon 10th January

### Tues 11th January

5.30pm Mass, St Joseph's East Maitland

### Wed 12th January

7.00pm Mass, Holy Family, Largs

### Thurs 13th January (*St Hilary, bishop, doctor*)

7.00am Mass, St Joseph's, East Maitland

### Fri 14th January

7.00am Mass, St Joseph's, East Maitland

### Sat 15th January

8.00am Mass/Reconciliation, St Joseph's, East Maitland

### Sun 16th January

9.00am Mass/Polish, OLOL, Beresfield

## PRIVATE PRAYER / ADORATION

### Mon 10th January

9.30am Prayer, St Joseph's, East Maitland

### Tues 11th January

9.30-10.30am Prayer, St Joseph's, East Maitland

### Wed 12th January

9.30-10.30am Prayer, St Joseph's, East Maitland

### Thurs 13th January

9.30-10.30am Prayer, St Joseph's, East Maitland

### Fri 14th January

7.30am Adoration, St Joseph's, East Maitland

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