



**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**  
 Judy 0412 689 517

**6.00pm Registrations**  
 Bec 0431 056 632

**ST JOHN THE BAPTIST** (Est 1841)  
 Maitland

**SACRED HEART**, New England Hwy, Campbell's Hill - **Vigil 6.30pm.**  
**Registrations** - Judy 0412 821 505 or Carole 0429 328 127

**HOLY FAMILY**, 11 John St, Largs  
**Sunday 8.20am. Registrations** - Terry 0429 727 704 or email terryob1956@gmail.com

**ST COLUMBA'S**, Cnr Prince & Church Sts, Paterson - **Sunday 9.30am.**  
**Registrations** - Maryanne 0409 336 993

**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. Registrations** - Tony 4932 0208/0437 280 147

**OUR LADY OF LOURDES** (Est 1947), Cnr Anderson Dr & Delprat Ave, Beresfield  
**Vigil 6.00pm. Registrations** - Irena 4966 2902 / 0407 662 901

**ST PAUL'S** (Est 1961), 10 Young St, Rutherford - **Sunday 8.00am.**  
**Registrations** — Gabby 0422 086 991

#### Ministers

All baptised members of the community

#### Ministry Team

**Parish Priest:** Fr George Anthicad

**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**

The shepherds went in haste, and found Mary and Joseph and the Infant lying in a manger.

### **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** 1 Sm 1:20-22. 24-28

A reading from the first book of Samuel  
*For the whole of his life, Samuel shall be lent to the Lord.*

Hannah conceived and gave birth to a son, and called him Samuel 'since' she said 'I asked the Lord for him.' When a year had gone by, the husband Elkanah went up again with all his family to offer the annual sacrifice to the Lord and to fulfil his vow. Hannah, however, did not go up, having said to her husband, 'Not before the child is weaned. Then I will bring him and present him before the Lord and he shall stay there for ever.' When she had weaned him, she took him up with her together with a three-year-old bull, an ephah of flour and a skin of wine, and she brought him to the temple of the Lord at Shiloh; and the child was with them. They slaughtered the bull, and the child's mother came to Eli. She said, 'If you please, my lord. As you live, my lord, I am the woman who stood here beside you, praying to the Lord. This is the child I prayed for, and the Lord granted me what I asked him. Now I make him over to the Lord for the whole of his life. He is made over to the Lord.' There she left him, for the Lord.

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

#### **Resp. Psalm** Ps 83:2-3. 5-6. 9-10. R. v.5

**(R.) How happy they who dwell in your house, O Lord.**

How lovely is your dwelling place, Lord, God of hosts. My soul is longing and yearning, is yearning for the courts of

the Lord. My heart and my soul ring out their joy to God, the living God. (R.)

They are happy, who dwell in your house, for ever singing your praise. They are happy, whose strength is in you; they walk with ever growing strength. (R.)

O Lord, God of hosts, hear my prayer, gave ear, O God of Jacob. Turn your eyes, O God, our shield, look on the face of your anointed. (R.)

#### **Second Reading** 1 Jn 3:1-2, 21-24

A reading from the first letter of St John  
*He calls you his own children, and that is what you are.*

Think of the love that the Father has lavished on us, by letting us be called God's children; and that is what we are. Because the world refused to acknowledge him, therefore it does not acknowledge us. My dear people, we are already the children of God but what we are to be in the future has not yet been revealed, all we know is, that when it is revealed we shall be like him because we shall see him as he really is. My dear people, if we cannot be condemned by our own conscience, we need not be afraid in God's presence, and whatever we ask him, we shall receive, because we keep his commandments and live the kind of life that he wants. His commandments are these: that we believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and that we love one another as he told us to.

Whoever keeps his commandments lives in God and God lives in him.

We know that he lives in us by the Spirit that he has given us.

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

#### **Gospel Acclamation** Alleluia, alleluia!

Open our heart, O Lord, to listen to the words of your Son.  
 Alleluia!

#### **Gospel** Lk 2:41-52

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

*His parents found him in the temple, sitting among the learned men, listening to them.*

Every year the parents of Jesus used to go to Jerusalem for the feast of the Passover. When he was twelve years old, they went up for the feast as usual. When they were on their way home after the feast, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem without his parents knowing it. They assumed he

was with the caravan, and it was only after a day's journey that they went to look for him among their relations and acquaintances. When they failed to find him they went back to Jerusalem looking for him everywhere. Three days later, they found him in the Temple, sitting among the doctors, listening to them, and asking them questions; and all those who heard him were astounded at his intelligence and his replies. They were overcome when they saw him, and his mother said to him, 'My child, why have you done this to us? See how worried your father and I have been, looking for you.' 'Why were you looking for me?' he replied. 'Did you not know that I must be busy with my Father's affairs?' But they did not understand what he meant. He then went down with them and came to Nazareth and lived under their authority. His mother stored up all these things in her heart. And Jesus increased in wisdom, in stature, and in favour with God and men.

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

#### **Homily - Fr Graham Fullick**

In St. Luke's account of Joseph and Mary losing Jesus in the Jerusalem temple and not noticing for three days, we can focus on the little and big angsts of parenthood. Earlier this year at the top of our Hunter Valley a young boy with autism was lost on a farm and then found. His parents were subjected to Police investigation for months. I certainly remember my mum and dad taking my twin brother and I to the Sydney Royal Easter show when we were 4 years old and being obviously concerned to keep us near them, pointing out the "good policemen and women to go to and ask if you can't find mummy or daddy" and they kept turning around checking on us. We can exalt Mary and Joseph in their sainthood, but they are truly human with it. They did not yet understand what their 12 year old Son meant when he said "I must be in my Father's house". They certainly had great anxiety. Yet Mary treasured all these things in her heart. What she did not understand in her head she treasured in her soul. That is an attitude of encounter and journey in life, of submitting to God in raising children to be brought by the vicissitudes and felicity of life in this realisation of parental fallibility to the infallibility of God's love for us! There is the three day physical search, no doubt churning in their stomachs. But there is the inner eternal journey and celebration of realising that God in His Son is showing them the Son's journey of faith and commitment to our and their salvation.

This happening is the first showing of what the incarnation, God becoming Man at Christmas truly means. Mary and Joseph not only lived with it in Jesus; they rolled with it. So we move from the angsts of parenthood to Jesus, the human Revelation of the Father's Glory, truly God and truly Man, Emmanuel, "God is with us" on Earth. This is beyond encounter. This will transform the whole of humanity as salvation is dawning—they just have to come to terms with this and ponder it. And so do we. Especially as they and we can take some R&R at this time. "Redemption & Reflection" amidst the "Rest & Relaxation". The perfection of human and Godly wisdom is now seen in the Jesus Mary and Joseph have been raising in righteous fashion, going to Jerusalem for the Passover these last 12 years. In his perfect humanity and divinity Jesus going about His Father's work, in His house. Jesus is instructing his dad and mum about why we go to church, as church, to receive the Wisdom of God even as he is also THE Wisdom of God. This is the absolute beauty of the incarnation lived out in Jesus and in the Holy Family. That is why it is "the" Holy Family. Jesus was not disobedient to them in staying in the temple enthralled in jointly developing His Godly mission of salvation and human understanding, appropriating its meaning. He was obedient to the 5<sup>th</sup>. Commandment. What he realised was that he had developing power and prowess as He became a teenager. And yet He had the wisdom to know He too should treasure in His soul also the love of His parents who had brought Him in His humanity to this divine understanding that astonished all in the Temple. Blessed be the loving youth, seeking meaning in God and using both parents and Church, both the wisdom of God. Let us incarnate the faith in our homes, the domestic Temple of Jerusalem.

#### **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:** Dear friends, on this day we celebrate the way we live as families. We are the family of God and whatever we ask shall be received

**Prayer Leader:**

We pray for ourselves, that like Jesus, we may always be concerned with our heavenly Father's business. ...Let us pray to the Lord. . . . **Lord hear us**

We pray for the Church, the Family of Faith, that we, his people, be a sign of hope and love, and be light in the darkness of our world.....Let us pray to the Lord.. . Lord hear us

For the family of peoples and nations, especially those torn by violence, hatred and war: that leaders be inspired to work for peace, freedom and Justice.....Let us pray to the Lord.. . **Lord hear us.**

We pray for all our families, that Christ be present in them with his blessing and peace; and that like Jesus, the young may grow in wisdom and grace in the sight of God and His people.....Let us pray to the Lord.. . Lord hear us.

That we, who live in a land of plenty, be mindful of those who live without adequate shelter, healthcare or homeland.....Let us pray to the lord.. . **Lord hear us.**

We pray for those weighed down by physical or mental illness; we ask a blessing on them. May they know the healing touch of their Saviour.....Let us pray to the Lord.. . . **Lord hear us.**

For our deceased relatives and friends, who have returned to our Heavenly Father: . . and for those, whose anniversaries occur around this time. May they all be gathered into the eternal joy of their heavenly home...Let us pray to the Lord. . . . **Lord hear us.**

**Celebrant:** God of goodness and love, you have blessed us with the gift of your Son who lived among us as infant, child and adult. Help us to be faithful and to walk in his ways. We make our prayers through the same Christ your Son, who is the Lord, for ever and ever. Amen

**Communion Antiphon** Our God has appeared on the earth, and lived among us.

### 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 for all those who have died this week***

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

Edmund Ferry, Ivy O'Neill, Wiktorina Ruba, Laurie Tuckerman, Enid Wild

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

Angeles Adapon, Dalisay Almanza, Teresa Almanza, Arabella Rae Arroyo, 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

# Parish Notices



## Merry Christmas and Thank you.

2021 has been a very tough year for our parishes, region, and diocese. In all that has happened, God has sustained us with hope and love. Thank you to all who have contributed to the life of the parish in anyway. We wish everyone Hope, Peace, Love and Joy this Christmas.

**Office Closure:** Our office is closed from 2pm 24th December and will reopen to the public on Tuesday 11th January.

All bulletins for the weekends of 26th December, 2nd & 9th January will be delivered to your church before we close on Christmas Eve.

Any anniversaries or recently deceased names missed in those weeks will be placed in the bulletin of the 16th January.

Janine, Sandra, Bec & Louise would like to thank each and everyone of you for your support this year. It truly has been trying times, but we have been blessed to have all our parishioners' prayers and support throughout the year. Thank you.

## ACTiv8 Raffle

Thank you to all those who supported the Youth Ministry Christmas Raffle through the purchasing of tickets and donation of prizes.

The raffle will be drawn at the 6pm Youth Mass on Sunday 2nd January.



St John's Chapel will be closed during the month of January. There will be no Masses during this time.

## Your safety is important

In each church you will find a

Life-saving defibrillator. They are located in obvious spots within your Church. At Paterson it is installed in the Nara Room and at East Maitland you will find in the Church and the Therry Center foyer.

It's important that you take less than 15 minutes out of your day to watch the training video in the link below as it may mean the difference between someone's life being saved, or not.

Here is the link to the training.

<http://rcl.ink/1iS>

The training is something which will help everyone so please take the time to complete or refresh yourself with the training as it's important that everyone knows this information – we pray the machines will never need to be used but if the situation arises this training gives us the confidence to save a life!

*During the Christmas break take some time to think about how you may be able to contribute to the life of your Parish Community in 2022*

We have many opportunities to volunteer in several areas of parish life. If you are interested in serving, please contact the parish office. We encourage you to volunteer in a way that brings you life as well. Perhaps your favorite hobby, joining the young ones at youth group, gardening, counting money or ministries during Mass. Anyway, that could be helpful to our parish. We're open. Please let us know.



New years Eve Eucharistic Adoration and Mass will be held at St Joseph's East Maitland. 5pm for Eucharistic Adoration followed by Mass at 6pm.

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)

## WEEKDAY MASS ROSTER

**Mon 27th December** (*St John, apostle, evangelist*)

**Tues 28th December** (*The Holy Innocents, martyrs*)  
5.30pm Mass, St Joseph's East Maitland

**Wed 29th December** (*St Thomas Becket, bishop, martyr*)  
7.00pm Mass, Holy Family, Largs

**Thurs 30th December**  
7.00am Mass, St Joseph's, East Maitland

**Fri 31st December** (*St Sylvester I, pope*)  
6.00pm Mass, St Joseph's, East Maitland

**Sat 1st January**  
9.00am Mass/Reconciliation, St Joseph's, East Maitland  
9.00am Mass/Polish, OLOL, Beresfield

**Sun 2nd January**  
9.00am Mass/Polish, OLOL, Beresfield

## PRIVATE PRAYER / ADORATION

**Mon 27th December**  
9.30am Prayer, St Joseph's, East Maitland

**Tues 28th December**  
9.30-10.30am Prayer, St Joseph's, East Maitland

**Wed 29th December**  
9.30-10.30am Prayer, St Joseph's, East Maitland

**Thurs 30th December**  
9.30-10.30am Prayer, St Joseph's, East Maitland

**Fri 31st December**  
5.00pm Adoration, St Joseph's, East Maitland

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