



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.

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 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

Rejoice, Jerusalem, and all who love her.
 Be joyful, all who were in mourning; exult and be satisfied at her consoling breast.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

First Reading 1 Sm 16:1. 6-7. 10-13

A reading from the first book of Samuel

In the presence of the Lord God, they anointed David king of Israel.

The Lord said to Samuel, 'Fill your horn with oil and go. I am sending you to Jesse of Bethlehem, for I have chosen myself a king among his sons.' When Samuel arrived, he caught sight of Eliab and thought, 'Surely the Lord's anointed one stands there before him,' but the Lord said to Samuel, 'Take no notice of his appearance or his height for I have rejected him; God does not see as man sees; man looks at appearances but the Lord looks at the heart.' Jesse presented his seven sons to Samuel, but Samuel said to Jesse, 'The Lord has not chosen these.' He then asked Jesse, 'Are these all the sons you have?' He answered, 'There is still one left, the youngest; he is out looking after the sheep.' Then Samuel said to Jesse, 'Send for him; we will not sit down to eat until he comes.' Jesse had him sent for, a boy of fresh complexion, with fine eyes and pleasant bearing. The Lord said, 'Come, anoint him, for this is the one.' At this, Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him where he stood with his brothers; and the spirit of the Lord seized on David and stayed with him from that day on.

The Word of the Lord
Thanks be to God

Resp. Psalm

The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want. Fresh and green are the pastures where he gives me repose. Near restful waters he leads me, to revive my drooping spirit. (R.)

He guides me along the right path; he is true to his name. If I should walk in the valley of darkness no evil would I fear. You are there with your crook and your staff; with these you give me comfort. (R.)

You have prepared a banquet for me
 In the sight of my foes. My head you have anointed with oil; my cup is overflowing. (R.)

Surely goodness and kindness shall follow me all the days of my life. In the Lord's own house shall I dwell for ever and ever. (R.)

Second Reading Eph 5:8-14

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Ephesians

Rise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you.

You were darkness once, but now you are light in the Lord; be like children of light, for the effects of the light are seen in complete goodness and right living and truth. Try to discover what the Lord wants of you, having nothing to do with the futile works of darkness but exposing them by contrast. The things which are done in secret are things that people are ashamed even to speak of; but anything exposed by the light will be illuminated and anything illuminated turns into light. That is why it is said: Wake up from your sleep, rise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you.

The Word of the Lord
Thanks be to God

Gospel Acclamation

Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ! I am the light of the world, says the Lord; whoever follows me will have the light of life. Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!

Gospel Jn 9:1-41

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

The blind man went off and washed himself and came away with his sight restored.

As Jesus went along, he saw a man who had been blind from birth. His disciples asked him, 'Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, for him to have been born blind?' 'Neither he nor his parents sinned,' Jesus answered, 'he was born blind so that the works of God might be displayed in him.

'As long as the day lasts I must carry out the work of the one who sent me; the night will soon be here when no one can work. As long as I am in the world I am the light of the world.'

Having said this, he spat on the ground, made a paste with the spittle, put this over the eyes of the blind man and said to him, 'Go and wash in the Pool of Siloam' (a name that means 'sent'). So the blind man went off and washed himself, and came away with his sight restored.

His neighbours and people who earlier had seen him begging said, 'Isn't this the man who used to sit and beg?' Some said, 'Yes, it is the same one.' Others said, 'No, he only looks like him.' The man himself said, 'I am the man.' So they said to him, 'Then how do your eyes come to be open?' 'The man called Jesus' he answered 'made a

paste, daubed my eyes with it and said to me, "Go and wash at Siloam"; so I went, and when I washed I could see.' They asked, 'Where is he?' 'I don't know' he answered.

They brought the man who had been blind to the Pharisees. It had been a sabbath day when Jesus made the paste and opened the man's eyes, so when the Pharisees asked him how he had come to see, he said, 'He put a paste on my eyes, and I washed, and I can see.' Then some of the Pharisees said, 'This man cannot be from God: he does not keep the sabbath.' Others said, 'How could a sinner produce signs like this?' And there was disagreement among them. So they spoke to the blind man again, 'What have you to say about him yourself, now that he has opened your eyes?' 'He is a prophet' replied the man.

However, the Jews would not believe that the man had been blind and had gained his sight, without first sending for his parents and asking them, 'Is this man really your son who you say was born blind? If so, how is it that he is now able to see?' His parents answered, 'We know he is our son and we know he was born blind, but we don't know how it is that he can see now, or who opened his eyes. He is old enough: let him speak for himself.' His parents spoke like this out of fear of the Jews, who had already agreed to expel from the synagogue anyone who should acknowledge Jesus as the Christ. This was why his parents said, 'He is old enough; ask him.'

So the Jews again sent for the man and said to him, 'Give glory to God! For our part, we know that this man is a sinner.' The man answered, 'I don't know if he is a sinner; I only know that I was blind and now I can see.' They said to him, 'What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?' He replied, 'I have told you once and you wouldn't listen. Why do you want to hear it all again? Do you want to become his disciples too?' At this they hurled abuse at him: 'You can be his disciple,' they said 'we are disciples of Moses: we know that God spoke to Moses, but as for this man, we don't know where he comes from.' The man replied, 'Now here is an astonishing thing! He has opened my eyes, and you don't know where he comes from! We know that God doesn't listen to sinners, but God does listen to men who are devout and do his will. Ever since the world began it is unheard of for anyone to open the eyes of a man who was born blind; if this man were not from God, he couldn't do a thing.' 'Are you trying to teach us,' they replied 'and you a sinner through and through, since you were born!' And they drove him away.

Jesus heard they had driven him away, and when he found him he said to him, 'Do you believe in the Son of Man?' 'Sir,' the man replied 'tell me who he is so that I may believe in him.' Jesus said, 'You are looking at him; he is speaking to you.' The man said, 'Lord, I believe', and worshipped him.

Jesus said:

'It is for judgement that I have come into this world, so that those without sight may see and those with sight turn blind.'

Hearing this, some Pharisees who were present said to him, 'We are not blind, surely?' Jesus replied:

'Blind? If you were, you would not be guilty, but since you say, "We see", your guilt remains.'

The Gospel of the Lord

Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ

Homily - Fr Maurice Cahill

St. John is at his best in our magnificent Gospel story today!

The story of the healing of the blind man is all about light and darkness: there are those who come to the light of true belief, and those who do not do so – ones we might call the "refuseniks". That division began immediately among the onlookers, and quickly spread to the religious leaders. And it has continued to divide down the ages. The coming of the Lord Jesus among us forces every person into a decision – the most important one they could ever make: of accepting the presence of Jesus and his teaching for their life, or rejecting or just letting it pass them by. It is the ultimate challenge God lays down: to accept his beautiful Son.

"As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world". Jesus says how that is the work his Father sent him to do. What a beautiful scene we have of Jesus revealing himself to newly-seeing man, and calling him to a deeper more wonderful light – the light of faith. Jesus asks him, *do you believe in God's holy Messiah? You are looking at him, he tells him.* But the man's full healing had still a long way to go: for to really *see, comprehend* Jesus he would need to grow in his faith.

It is a call to all of us. We, too, can gaze on that Divine, loving, ever-so-beautiful person of Jesus. But we must do it through the eyes of our faith. We all need to gaze much on our Saviour, and let him speak to us and light our way. We do it as we listen to his word here now at Mass and ponder it together.

Let us praise the Lord for his call and for the gift of faith. May we continue to gaze on him the better to know and love him.

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: Brothers and Sisters, healed of his blindness the man born blind proclaims, "Lord, I believe!" With that same faith in Christ who is the light of the world, we place our prayers before our Father as we pray:

We pray for Pope Francis, the Bishops, Priests and Deacons, that they may always lead us in our faith and be Christ's witnesses to the truth of the Gospels. . . . Let us pray **Lord hear our prayer**

We ask the Holy Spirit to inspire a Priest in our great land of Australia to say 'Yes' to God and become a Bishop for our Diocese to shepherd us with love and compassion. . . . Let us pray . . . **Lord hear our prayer.**

We pray for Father John. May the Holy Spirit watch over him and give him the graces he needs to fulfill the duties of his new Ministry, as he serves our loving God . . . Let us pray . . . **Lord hear our prayer.**

We pray for peace and reconciliation in our world especially in Ukraine. May the leaders of all Nations come together in the Spirit of Christ with a sense of Justice and compassion for all people seeking refuge. . . Let us pray . . . **Lord hear our prayer.**

For all families who are now are preparing for first Reconciliation: and the Candidates and The Elect, that the Lord guide and enlighten them by the outpouring of his Spirit. . . . Let us pray . . . **Lord hear our prayer.**

We pray for those in need, those who are not well, may they feel the loving presence of Jesus through our prayers. . . Let us pray . . . **Lord hear our prayer.**

For those who have gone before us in faith Trevor Richardson and Patricia Saide that the light of Christ will shine on them in Eternal life. . . . Let us pray . . . **Lord hear our prayer.**

Celebrant: Father we do not physically see You as the blind man did, enlighten the eyes of our minds to see the path You lay before us paved with Your grace and help us to unite in faith and share Your presence with those around us. Through Christ our Lord.

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.

Communion Antiphon The Lord anointed my eyes: I went, I washed, I saw and I believed in God.

We pray those who have died this week

Trevor Richardson, Patricia Saide

We remember those whose Anniversaries occur around this time including

Leo Bunt, Mary Anne Gillis, Carol Johnson, Viola Kearney, Aloizy (Alec) Konklewski, Barry Lantry

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, Peters Family (Maryborough), Ella Rusak, Olga Rusak, Jane Winsor O'Keefe, Amelia Verdera Satana, Margaret Sipple, Zane Slomka, Steven Small, Anne Standing, Carol Su'a, Margareth Tajonera, Vivian Tee, Kathleen Tuckerman, Bill Temperley, Veronica Tuck, Robert Wild, Jo Winkler

We pray for those children who will be Baptised this weekend

Emerson Thomas Augustin, Cooper Andrew Burrell, Sophia Louise Ellul, Charlotte Louise Gee, Luca Jonath, Isabella Grace Tunnicliff, Jackson James Tunnicliff

Rite of Christian Initiation Adults (RCIA) The Elect and Candidates

Amanda Collis, Jennifer Drew, Jordan Hardy, Edward Howe, Joshua Latimore, Kirrilee Johns, Ledy Mackie, Lyall Robertson, Simone Westcott, Kendall Whyte

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 or visit their website for further information www.officeofsafeguarding.org.au

Parish Notices

REGIONAL RECONCILIATION FOR EASTER

2nd Rite of Reconciliation will be at 6pm at
Rutherford—Wednesday 30th March
Beresfield—Thursday 31st March
Campbell's Hill—Wednesday 6th April
East Maitland—Thursday 7th April

All Saints' College leadership update from the CSO:

Mr Marc Romano recently departed from his role as Principal of All Saints' College and we thank him for his dedicated service and commitment to secondary education.

Taking on the role of Principal of the College is Mr Brian Lacey. Brian joined the Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle in 2009 as College Principal of St Catherine's Catholic College Singleton. In 2015, he was appointed to the Catholic Schools Office leadership team as Head of Religious Education and Spirituality Services before moving into an Assistant Director role at the start of 2019.

A Maitland-local, you may recognise Brian from his regular engagement here in the Paterson community. Additionally, Brian has been actively engaged with the College as part of his role as Assistant Director and he will lead the College as it transitions to one campus.

We welcome his appointment and I encourage parishioners to contact Brian for any matters pertaining to the College.

The Legion of Mary is holding a yearly Consecration to Our Lady this Sunday 27th March at St Joseph's Church East Maitland from 2.00pm to 3.00pm. Afternoon tea will follow at the Therry Centre. All welcome



Ukraine Appeal

Our long-standing partner, Caritas Ukraine, is on the ground providing shelter, food, clean water, medicine and psychological support. **Donate now to help the people of Ukraine. Donate today at**

www.caritas.org.au/ukraine or
call 1800 024 413 toll free.
www.caritas.org.au/ukraine-news

Welcome to children who are in our Sacramental programme this year who are here this weekend to receive a copy of The Our Father. These children will be receiving Reconciliation within the Regional Reconciliations this week and next week

The Triduum will be celebrated at Sacred Heart, Campbell's Hill this Easter by Fr John Lovell. We invite the communities of Lochinvar, Rutherford, Paterson and Largs to attend and welcome volunteers for the special ministries as they have in the past years. Please talk to your Parish representative and leave your name with them. With grateful thanks for your generosity.

Stations of the Cross

will be held each Friday during Lent
Immaculate Conception, Morpeth 10.00am
Our Lady of Lourdes, Beresfield - 6.00pm
St Joseph's, East Maitland - 7.00pm

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT:

This Friday 1st April —ALL ARE WELCOME
First Friday of each month from after the Mass at 7am until 8am
Mass on Saturday at St Joseph's East Maitland.

MASS OF THE LAND OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

Indigenous Mass

Celebrated by Fr John Purnell will be held at
Holy Family, Largs this Wednesday 30/3 at 7pm.

During Mass the various rituals will be explained. This is a unique opportunity for us to gain a better understanding of our fellow indigenous Australians & how the spirituality of two cultures can be shared.

ACTiv8 Youth Raffle

We have a huge range of prizes from Easter Eggs, Skincare products, Sports Memorabilia and much more.

Tickets are \$2 each and available at your Church or the office. Thank you for the ongoing support of our youth in the Chisholm Region.

WEEKDAY MASS ROSTER

Tues 29th March

5.30pm Mass, St Joseph's East Maitland

Wed 30th March

12 Midday Mass, St John's Chapel, Maitland

7.00pm Indigenous Mass, Holy Family, Largs

Thurs 31st March

7.00am Mass, St Joseph's, East Maitland

Fri 1st April

7.00am Mass, St Joseph's, East Maitland

Sat 2nd April (St Francis of Paola, hermit)

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

Sun 3rd April

9.00am Mass—Polish, St Mary's Chapel (Victoria St Maitland)

PRIVATE PRAYER / ADORATION

Mon 28th March

9.30am - 12 Midday Prayer, St Joseph's, East Maitland

12 Midday- pm Eucharistic Adoration, St Joseph's, East Maitland

Tues 29th March

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

Wed 30th March

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

Thurs 31st March

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

Fri 1st April

7.00am to 8am Sat 2nd April First Friday & First Saturday Adoration, St Joseph's, East Maitland

9.30am - Prayer of the Church, LOL, Beresfield

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