



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.
Celebrated at St Paul's Rutherford
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 Anthonicad
Asst Priests: Fr John Vo Vien
Fr Graham Fullick

Presbytery 4934 5783

Urgent Priest on Duty
0428 017 273

Support Clergy

Fr Maurice Cahill
Fr Anthony Coloma
Fr Brett O'Neill SJ

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

Behold, the Lord, the Mighty One, has come; and kingship is in his grasp, and power and dominion.

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 60:1-6*

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

The glory of the Lord shines upon you.

Arise, shine out, Jerusalem, for your light has come, the glory of the Lord is rising on you, though night still covers the earth and darkness the peoples.

Above you the Lord now rises and above you his glory appears.

The nations come to your light and kings to your dawning brightness.

Lift up your eyes and look round:

all are assembling and coming towards you, your sons from far away and your daughters being tenderly carried. At this sight you will grow radiant, your heart throbbing and full; since the riches of the sea will flow to you; the wealth of the nations come to you; camels in throngs will cover you, and dromedaries of Midian and Ephah; everyone in Sheba will come, bringing gold and incense and singing the praise of the Lord.

The Word of the Lord
Thanks be to God

Responsorial Psalm

Lord, every nation on earth will adore you.

O God, give your judgement to the king, to a king's son your justice, that he may judge your people in justice and your poor in right judgement. (R.)

In his days justice shall flourish and peace till the moon fails. He shall rule from sea to sea, from the Great River to earth's bounds. (R.)

The kings of Tarshish and the sea coasts shall pay him tribute. The kings of Sheba and Seba shall bring him gifts. Before him all kings shall fall prostrate, all nations shall serve him. (R.)

For he shall save the poor when they cry and the needy who are helpless. He will have pity on the weak and save the lives of the poor. (R.)

Second Reading *Eph 3:2-3. 5-6*

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Ephesians

The revelation means that pagans now share the same inheritance, that they are parts of the same body.

You have probably heard how I have been entrusted by God with the grace he meant for you, and that it was by a revelation that I was given the knowledge of the mystery. This mystery that has now been revealed through the Spirit to his holy apostles and prophets was unknown to any men in past generations; it means that pagans now share the same inheritance, that they are parts of the same body, and that the same promise has been made to them, in Christ Jesus, through the gospel.

The Word of the Lord
Thanks be to God

Gospel Acclamation Alleluia, alleluia!

We have seen his star in the East; and have come to adore the Lord. Alleluia!

Gospel *Mt 2:1-12*

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

We have come from the East to worship the king.

After Jesus had been born at Bethlehem in Judaea during the reign of King Herod, some wise men came to Jerusalem from the east. 'Where is the infant king of the Jews?' they asked. 'We saw his star as it rose and have come to do him homage.' When King Herod heard this he was perturbed, and so was the whole of Jerusalem. He called together all the chief priests and the scribes of the people, and enquired of them where the Christ was to be born. 'At Bethlehem in Judaea,' they told him, 'for this is what the prophet wrote: And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, you are by no means least among the leaders of Judah, for out of you will come a leader

who will shepherd my people Israel.’

Then Herod summoned the wise men to see him privately. He asked them the exact date on which the star had appeared, and sent them on to Bethlehem. ‘Go and find out all about the child,’ he said ‘and when you have found him, let me know, so that I too may go and do him homage.’ Having listened to what the king had to say, they set out. And there in front of them was the star they had seen rising; it went forward and halted over the place where the child was. The sight of the star filled them with delight, and going into the house they saw the child with his mother Mary, and falling to their knees they did him homage. Then, opening their treasures, they offered him gifts of gold and frankincense and myrrh. But they were warned in a dream not to go back to Herod, and returned to their own country by a different way.

The Gospel of the Lord
Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ

REFLECTION by Fr Michael Tate
Stars and Seekers after Truth

Unlike the writers of the horoscope columns in our newspapers, these Wise Men were scholar astrologers, probably from Syria or Iraq. They believed that the stars controlled the destiny of human beings, but they were open enough to the Hebrew scriptures to be led to the amazing discovery of a star-child in Bethlehem.

They knelt before this baby, doing homage, because they realised that the stars did not control *this* infant, but that there was something of this baby which caused the night sky to respond! They preserved the child from the deadly schemes of Herod, and then they returned to their home country, ‘by a different way’. They were on a different journey after encountering the Child.

Who can doubt that the Holy Spirit led these wise men from the East to the manger? In fact, the Holy Spirit is at work in every human being, prompting each and every one to become seekers after Truth.

As a person responds to this prompting and tries to lead a good humane life, then the Church teaches that the Holy Spirit can draw them into the saving life of God. Thus, billions in China and India who have never heard the Gospel, can be saved. But, such persons do not savour the fullness of Truth as we do with the privilege of having the scriptures and the sacraments. Where it is possible, we are obliged to offer them the road map to the Truth.

We can take a moment to affirm our faith in the baby in the manger as the One of whom Dante spoke: ‘the Love which moves the sun and other stars’. Come, let us adore him.

© 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 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.

UNIVERSAL PRAYERS

Celebrant: Almighty God You sent a shining star to guide us to Your Son Jesus. May that star continue to shine on us with love, and enlighten our trust to do Your will, as we continue on our journey of faith.

Prayer leader

For Pope Francis, Bishops, Priests and Deacons. That the message of Bethlehem will live on in their lives and give them the wisdom and strength care for the people of God here on earth. . . . Gracious Lord. . . . Hear our prayer.

We pray that Our Loving Lord will shower Blessings on Father Graham as he prepares to move to his new appointment. May he be given the graces he needs to minister to the Communities in the upper Hunter and know the presence of Jesus in those he meets. We give thanks for his presence with us over the past years and for the times that he has prayed and inspired us. . . . Gracious Lord. . . . Hear our prayer.

As we remember the feast of the Baptism of Jesus this week, Lord, help us to be true followers of His way living the Gospel and proclaiming what is truly valuable in life. . . Gracious Lord. Hear our prayer.

For the people of Ukraine. May the Holy Spirit secure the peace of Christ in the hearts of the Authorities, for the communities to live with Justice and Peace. . . Gracious Lord. Hear our prayer.

For the orphans, the refugees and the homeless of this world. That as your Risen Son gathered them to be His people, may we as Christians not leave them without help and support. Gracious Lord. Hear our prayer.

For the peace of the Christ child, for all people who are unable to attend Eucharist in person. May Your shining star rest in their hearts. . . Gracious Lord. Hear our prayer.

For Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI, Kiley Fitzgerald, Audrey Kennedy, Magda Olsen, Karolenia Vrbnjak and our relatives and friends who have been called by our most Holy Father. May they now live in the everlasting light of Christ. Gracious Lord. Hear our prayer.

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.

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 We have seen his star in the East, and have come with gifts to adore the Lord.

We pray those who have died this week

Kiley Fitzgerald, Audrey Jean Kennedy, Magda Elsie Olsen, Karolenia Vrbnjak

We remember those whose Anniversaries occur around this time including

James Cashmore, Harold Doherty Snr, Clarence Michael Jordan, Jill Smith

We pray for those who are sick at this time

Angeles Adapon, Dalisay Almanza, Teresa Almanza, Arabella Rae Arroyo, Joseph Austin, Cynthia Appleton, Ian Christopher Bajo, Lorraine Bartlett, Brian & Esme Bisson, Judy Mary Carmody, Olga Charlton, Robyn Chesworth, Juliet Cranny, Marion & Luke Crotty, Nickolee Dennis, Nicholas Dilley, Yvonne Mary Fielding, Pam French, Melinda Grainger, Anne & Peter Hardy, Leanne Hardy, Ethan Joseph, Karen Kenyon, Krystyna Kulzcznski, Hughie Laverey, Patricia Lancaster, Fr Anthony Lemon (Murwillumbah), Michael Lockyer, Sharon Martin, Judy Massey, Victoria Micallef, Kevin Moloney, Mharielle Munoz, Daphne Parfait, Lisa Peattie, Jen Phillips, Ella Rusak, Olga Rusak, Margaret Sipple, Steven Small, Anne Standing, Carol Su'a, Vivian Tee, Bill Temperley, Andrew Veitch, Nilda Walker, Robert Wild, Gary Wills, Therese Wilkinson, Jo Winkler, Phillip Wilson

We pray for those children who will be Baptised this weekend

Lillie Kate Bushell, Braxton John Cock, Dallas Jae Cock, Reuben John Charles O' Toole, Max Terrance Stevens, Nash William Stevens, Reuben Maxwell Wisemantel, Kayde John Guo Chang Xu

We pray for the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) Candidates and Catechumens

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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



Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI
1927 - 2022



United with Pope Francis and Christians throughout the world, we mourn the passing of Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI, one of the greatest theologian-popes in the Church's two-thousand-year history. His Holiness visited Sydney for World Youth Day in 2008 and he canonised St Mary of the Cross Mackillop as Australia's first recognised saint. We pray that the humble servant of the Lord, Benedict XVI, be welcomed into the loving embrace of the God he served so well. Eternal rest grant him oh Lord and May the perpetual light shine upon him.



On the 11th January 2023, Fr Graham Fullick will be leaving the Chisholm Region. Fr Graham has been appointed as Parish Priest of the Parishes of Scone (including Moonan flat) and Murrurundi. Fr Graham has served in the Parishes of the Chisholm Region for 2 years and 4 days. We thank him for his dedicated service and congratulate him on his new appointment. Pray for him and the parishioners of his new parishes.

Thank you!

On Saturday 7/1/2023 we had an opportunity as a region to say thank you and farewell to Fr Graham. Thank you to everyone who came along to the Mass and morning tea and for those who helped prepare and clean up after the celebration.

The next **Anointing Mass** will be held at St Joseph's East Maitland at 10am on Friday 20th January 2023 All Welcome

Gratitude from Fr. Graham Fullick.

Please keep the Faith, Hope and Love alive!
Thank you to all you faithful parishioners of the Chisholm Region especially our wonderful silent and steadfast ministry teams of workers. May the Lord richly reward you.
Thank you all for your prayers and goodwill which are God's will. I have loved being present in the joys and woes of our life together.
To the consecrated Religious and clergy of our region: Frs. Paul O'Neill and Lex Levey (both RIP), Frs. George Anthicad PP, John Vo Vien, John Lovell, John Purnell, Maurice Cahill, Brett O'Neill SJ, and Deacon Gerard McCarthy a heart-felt thanks.
Welcome back Fr. Camillus Nwahia! Every apostle has a charism to be loved and respected. To our devoted parish staff, a thousand thanks.
Please pray for our brothers and sisters in Scone and Murrurundi.
With gratitude and God's blessings. Fr. Graham.

Many thanks for so many people who have been involved in the preparations for Christmas, the decoration of the churches, setting up the Manger scenes and in the celebration of our Christmas Masses across the Region. Our deep gratitude and appreciation for all those involved in Liturgical Ministries and in the Music Ministry.

Special thanks to Fr Greg Arnold, Fr Brett O'Neill, Fr Kevin Kiem, Fr Anthony Coloma for their generosity by helping out with Masses.

We wish to thank each one of you for your generous spirit as each community gathers in faith. May God always accompany, bless you all in the New Year 2023

Piety Stall

Will be closed until the weekend of the 28th January 2023

WEEKDAY MASS ROSTER

Mon 9th January (*The Baptism of the Lord*)

Tues 10th January
5.30pm Mass, St Joseph's, East Maitland

Wed 11th January
7.00pm Mass, Holy Family, Largs

Thurs 12th January
7.00am Mass, St Joseph's, East Maitland

Fri 13th January (*St Hilary, bishop, doctor*)
7.00am Mass, St Joseph's, East Maitland

Sat 14th January
8.00am Mass/Reconciliation, St Joseph's, East Maitland

Sun 15th January
9.00am Mass Polish, St Mary's Chapel (Victoria St Maitland)

PRIVATE PRAYER / ADORATION

Mon 9th January
9.30am-10.30am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, St Joseph's, East Maitland
~~12 Midday - 1 pm~~ Eucharistic Adoration St Joseph's, East Maitland

Tues 10th January
9.30-10.30am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, St Joseph's, East Maitland

Wed 11th January
9.30-10.30am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, St Joseph's, East Maitland

Thurs 12th January
9.30-10.30am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, St Joseph's, East Maitland

Fri 13th January
7.30am Adoration, St Joseph's, East Maitland
9.30am Prayer of the Church, OLOL, Beresfield

Prayer of the Church will resume on Friday 27th January 2023