



## FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT YEAR A Sunday 26th February 2023

**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 Anthicad  
**Asst Priests:** Fr John Vo Vien  
Fr Camillus Nwahia

Presbytery 4934 5783

**Urgent Priest on Duty**  
**0428 017 273**

**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

When he calls on me, I will answer him; I will deliver him and give him glory, I will grant him length of days.

### LITURGY OF THE WORD

### First Reading **Gen 2:7-9; 3:1-7**

A reading from the book of Genesis

### *Creation of our first parents, and sin.*

The Lord God fashioned man of dust from the soil. Then he breathed into his nostrils a breath of life, and thus man became a living being. The Lord God planted a garden in Eden which is in the east, and there he put the man he had fashioned. The Lord God caused to spring up from the soil every kind of tree, enticing to look at and good to eat, with the tree of life and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil in the middle of the garden. The serpent was the most subtle of all the wild beasts that the Lord God had made. It asked the woman, 'Did God really say you were not to eat from any of the trees in the garden?' The woman answered the serpent, 'We may eat the fruit of the trees in the garden. But of the fruit of the tree in the middle of the garden God said, "You must not eat it, nor touch it, under pain of death".' Then the serpent said to the woman, 'No! You will not die! God knows in fact that on the day you eat it your eyes will be opened and you will be like gods, knowing good and evil.' The woman saw that the tree was good to eat and pleasing to the eye, and that it was desirable for the knowledge that it could give. So she took some of its fruit and ate it. She gave some also to her husband who was with her, and he ate it. Then the eyes of both of them were opened and they realised that they were naked. So they sewed fig-leaves together to make themselves loin-cloths.

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

### Responsorial Psalm

**Be merciful, O Lord, for we have sinned.**

Have mercy on me, God, in your kindness. In your compassion blot out my offence. O wash me more and more from my guilt and cleanse me from my sin. (R.)

My offences truly I know them; my sin is always before me. Against you, you alone, have I sinned; what is evil in your sight I have done. (R.)

A pure heart create for me, O God, put a steadfast spirit within me. Do not cast me away from your presence, nor deprive me of your holy spirit. (R.)

Give me again the joy of your help; with a spirit of fervour sustain me. O Lord, open my lips and my mouth shall declare your praise. (R.)

### Second Reading **Rom 5:12-19**

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

*Where sin increased, there grace abounded all the more.*

Sin entered the world through one man, and through sin death, and thus death has spread through the whole human race because everyone has sinned. Sin existed in the world long before the Law was given. There was no law and so no one could be accused of the sin of 'law-breaking', yet death reigned over all from Adam to Moses, even though their sin, unlike that of Adam, was not a matter of breaking a law.

Adam prefigured the One to come, but the gift itself considerably outweighed the fall. If it is certain that through one man's fall so many died, it is even more certain that divine grace, coming through the one man, Jesus Christ, came to so many as an abundant free gift. The results of the gift also outweigh the results of one man's sin: for after one single fall came judgement with a verdict of condemnation, now after many falls comes grace with its verdict of acquittal. If it is certain that death reigned over everyone as the consequence of one man's fall, it is even more certain that one man, Jesus Christ, will cause everyone to reign in life who receives the free gift that he does not deserve, of being made righteous. Again, as one man's fall brought condemnation on everyone, so the good act of one man brings everyone life and makes them justified. As by one man's disobedience many were made sinners, so by one man's obedience many will be made righteous.

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

### Gospel Acclamation

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory! No one lives on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!

## Gospel Mt 4:1-11

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

*Jesus fasted for forty days and nights.*

Jesus was led by the Spirit out into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. He fasted for forty days and forty nights, after which he was very hungry, and the tempter came and said to him, 'If you are the Son of God, tell these stones to turn into loaves.' But he replied, 'Scripture says: Man does not live on bread alone but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.' The devil then took him to the holy city and made him stand on the parapet of the Temple. 'If you are the Son of God,' he said, 'throw yourself down; for scripture says: He will put you in his angels' charge, and they will support you on their hands in case you hurt your foot against a stone.' Jesus said to him, 'Scripture also says: You must not put the Lord your God to the test.'

Next, taking him to a very high mountain, the devil showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendour. 'I will give you all these', he said, 'if you fall at my feet and worship me.' Then Jesus replied, 'Be off, Satan! For scripture says: You must worship the Lord your God, and serve him alone.' Then the devil left him, and angels appeared and looked after him.

**The Gospel of the Lord**

**Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ**

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## REFLECTION by Fr Michael Tate

### It is Written

Jesus was offered three shortcuts for his ministry. Firstly, exceptional powers to satisfy his own needs (bread out of stones). Secondly, when he needed to take risks, angels to keep him safe. Thirdly, when he wanted to change the world, absolute political power.

These were the Temptations of Christ, but also for us. If you or I are tempted to sin, we will find the marks of this threefold pattern. We want the whole world to change to satisfy us, or we want to take stupid risks and come out unscathed, or we want to exercise total power over others.

How can we try to follow Jesus without the shortcuts of the fantasy world which the Devil may offer? Note that Jesus resisted each temptation with: 'It is written'. The forty days of Lent are a perfect opportunity to read what 'is written' in the Gospels about the episodes and pattern of the life of Jesus Christ.

We could pause for a moment to find what is written and to imitate what we find. That is how the Devil is defeated.

© 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:** During His time on earth, Jesus was tempted in every way, just as we are in our lives. Let us place our needs in the of our heavenly Father, just as Jesus did.

### Prayer Leader:

We pray for our Church and those who lead us in faith. The Pope, Bishops, Priests and Deacons, who encourage us to have hope in our hearts. **We pray . . . . Lord hear our prayer**

For Bishop Michael Kennedy who will join our Diocese. We pray that the Holy Spirit will give him the strength and courage to be our guiding light. May he find love and companionship in each community. **We pray. . . . Lord hear our prayer**

We pray for the Catechumens in RCIA who will sign their intentions in the Rite of Election this weekend.

**We pray . . . . Lord hear our prayer**

We pray for the children in the Sacramental Program that through their parents and guardians they come to know the true love of Jesus and invite Him into their lives. **We pray. . . . Lord hear our prayer**

As we begin this Lenten season: let us renew our commitment to care for those less fortunate and give generously to the Project Compassion through Caritas. . . **We Pray. . . Lord hear our prayer**

For those who are not well that they find the peace of Christ in their sufferings and call on the Father just as Jesus did when He was on the cross. . . **We pray. . . . Lord hear our prayer**

For those who have died, during the floods and earthquakes in our world and those who have returned to our heavenly home recently, especially John Guiren, Peter Reynolds, Azalea Thomas, Patrick Wheeler  
**We pray. . . . Lord hear our prayer**

**Celebrant:** God, our loving Father, in your kindness and compassion, hear and answer the prayers we make 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** One does not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes forth from the mouth of God.

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

John Guiren, Peter Reynolds, Azalea Thomas, Patrick Wheeler

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

Socorro Agustin, Michael Carter, Les Carlyon, Coral Chaloner, Neville Chaloner, Asajar Gatdula, Nicholas (Nick) Sawyer, Michael Tobin, Joel and Gloria Trunk, Peter Turnbull,

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

Angeles Adapon, Dalisay Almanza, Arabella Rae Arroyo, Ian - Christopher Bajo, Lorraine Bartlett, Brian & Esme Bisson, Judy Mary Carmody, Olga Charlton, Robyn Chesworth, Juliet Cranny, Hector Crisostomo, Melba Crisostomo, Marion & Luke Crotty, Nickolee Dennis, Nicholas Dilley, Yvonne Mary Fielding, Pam French, Melinda Grainger, Anne & Peter Hardy, Leanne Hardy, Mavis Hoadley, Patricia Hughes, Ethan Joseph, Raymond Kelana, Karen Kenyon, Krystyna Kulzcznski, Fr Anthony Lemon (Murwillumbah), Michael Lockyer, Sharon Martin, Judy Massey, Victoria Micallef, Kevin Moloney, Caroline Morgan, 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, Jo Winkler, Phillip Wilson

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

Chelsea Grace Beggs, Addison Grace Clapham, Thomas William Gardner, Isabella Rose Hoawerth, Florence Rose Howe, Madeleine Joan Howe, Maverick Michael Scott

***We pray for the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) Candidates and Catechumens who have commenced their Journey to join our Communities***

Kellie Abbiss, Scott Berry, Nicole Elbourne, Rodney Elbourne, Michelle Hartmann, Kate Kelly, Kim Roberts, Jessica Scully, Matthew Thompson-Pyne, Scott Warnock and Tony Welch

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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

Welcome to all those children who are preparing for the Sacraments of initiation. This weekend marks the beginning of their journey with the ritual of the Sprinkling Rite.



### First Sunday of Lent 25 & 26 February

After losing her father when she was just 10-years-old, **Laxmi** was at risk of falling further into extreme poverty. But with the support of our partner Caritas Nepal, Laxmi joined a child's club, became a leader in her school and is now a mentor to other children in her village.

#### Please donate to Project Compassion 2023.

Together, we can help vulnerable communities face their challenges today and build a better tomorrow **For All Future Generations**. You can donate through Project Compassion donation boxes/envelopes available from your parish, by visiting [caritas.org.au/project-compassion](https://caritas.org.au/project-compassion), or by calling 1800 024 413.



**Calling all singers** from across the Maitland-Newcastle Diocese to join the Cathedral Choir for significant events. If you are a singer and would like to join the choir for the Installation of Bishop-Elect Michael Kennedy on Friday 17 March at 6.00pm you must be available for no less than three of four rehearsals scheduled for Thursdays: 23 February, 2, 9 and 16 March from 6.00 – 7.00pm in the Sacred Heart Cathedral, 841 Hunter Street, Newcastle West. To register please submit your details as soon as possible and do all you can to get to first rehearsal on Thu 23 Feb. Register at <https://forms.office.com/r/6ADQMRu8zZ>  
Enquiries to 4979 1134

**Rite of Election – this Sunday** An opportunity to welcome all the catechumens who will be baptised in their parishes at the Easter Vigil. from 2.30pm at Sacred Heart Cathedral Newcastle West, followed by afternoon tea. Please RSVP for catering to [E.sharon.murphy@mn.catholic.org.au](mailto:E.sharon.murphy@mn.catholic.org.au) P 4979 1134.

 Piety Stall at East Maitland is closed this weekend 26/2 and next weekend 5/3

 **STATIONS OF THE CROSS – 7.00pm Fridays during Lent** at St Joseph's Church East Maitland. All welcome.



## Regional Mass and Picnic

A community get-together for everyone in our region **Sunday 12th March 11am**.

Starting with an outdoor Mass in the grounds of St Joseph's East Maitland school followed by a magic show in the Therry Centre **with JD'S world of magic**. Carnival games, ice cream truck, bbq, coffee and much more. Bring along picnic rug, nibbles, lunch and friends. Everyone welcome.

**CENACLE ROSARY OF THE MARIAN MOVEMENT OF PRIESTS & DIVINE MERCY CHAPLET PRAYER MEETING** to pray for priests and vocations to the priesthood, every Wednesday (except 1st Wed)

**APOSTOLATE OF PRAYER TO ST. JOSEPH OF THE ETERNAL FAMILY PRAYER MEETING:** to pray for families in crisis every 1st Wednesday of the month at St. Joseph's Church, King St. East Maitland at 7pm. Everyone is most welcome.

### World Day of Prayer 2023 Friday 3rd March at 10am

- RUTHERFORD: the Salvation Army Citadel, Bunning Ave, Rutherford
- EAST MAITLAND: Seventh Day Adventist Church, Brunswick St, East Maitland
- MORPETH: Uniting Church, 98 High St, Morpeth
- TARRO: Uniting Church, 12 Northern Avenue, 10.30AM



### BERESFIELD CATHOLIC LADIES GROUP:

The next meeting will be this Tuesday, 28th February. You are warmly invited to come along and join us. We will meet in the Meeting Room at 11.00am (after Lenten Group meeting). Everyone welcome.

### The CIAN March Webinar "Holy Week and Mystagogy"

The Zoom webinar will involve short presentations from two of CIAN's executive members who have a wealth of experience in RCIA: Simon Yeak, Sacramental Life & RCIA coordinator for Sydney Archdiocese, and Br Bernard Mary Fonkalsrud, a CIAN Executive Committee member

**When:** Monday 13th March 2023 **Time:** 7-8.15pm AEDT

**Where:** via Zoom

**Register:** <https://tinyurl.com/CIAN-Mar2023-webinar>



### Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

First Friday of each month from after Mass at 7.30am until 8.00am Mass on Saturday at St Joseph's East Maitland 3/3/2023

### WEEKDAY MASS ROSTER

**Mon 27th February** (St Gregory of Narek, abbot, doctor)

**Tues 28th February**

5.30pm Mass, St Joseph's, East Maitland

**Wed 1st March**

7.00pm Mass, Holy Family, Largs

**Thurs 2nd March**

7.00am Mass, St Joseph's, East Maitland

**Fri 3rd March** - (Autumn Ember Day)

7.00am Mass, St Joseph's, East Maitland

**Sat 4th March** (St Casimir)

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

**Sun 5th March**

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

### PRIVATE PRAYER / ADORATION

**Mon 27th February**

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

**Tues 28th February**

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

**Wed 1st March**

9.30am-10.30am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, St Joseph's, East Maitland **FUNERAL** Marian Movement of Priests Rosary, St Joseph's, East Maitland

7.00pm

**Thurs 2nd March**

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

**Fri 3rd March**

7.30am Friday—8am Sat 4th March Adoration, St Joseph's, East Maitland Prayer of the Church, OLOL, Beresfield