



PARISH OFFICE : 302 High St Maitland
Tuesday - Friday 9.30am - 4.30pm
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 8.00am.

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

Safeguarding Promoters

Rebecca Piefke & Louise Gilchrist
As per office contacts

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

Give peace, O Lord, to those who wait for you, that your prophets be found true. Hear the prayers of your servant, and of your people Israel.

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 Sirach 27:30-28:7

A reading from the book of Ecclesiasticus

Forgive your neighbour's faults and when you pray, your sins will be forgiven.

Resentment and anger, these are foul things, and both are found with the sinner.

He who exacts vengeance will experience the vengeance of the Lord, who keeps strict account of sin.

Forgive your neighbour the hurt he does you, and when you pray, your sins will be forgiven.

If a man nurses anger against another, can he then demand compassion from the Lord?

Showing no pity for a man like himself, can he then plead for his own sins?

Mere creature of flesh, he cherishes resentment; who will forgive him his sins?

Remember the last things, and stop hating, remember dissolution and death, and live by the commandments.

Remember the commandments, and do not bear your neighbour ill-will; remember the covenant of the Most High, and overlook the offence.

The Word of the Lord
Thanks be to God

Responsorial Psalm (R.) The Lord is kind and merciful; slow to anger and rich in compassion.

Ps 102:1-4. 9-12. R. v.8

My soul, give thanks to the Lord, all my being, bless his holy name. My soul, give thanks to the Lord and never forget all his blessings.

It is he who forgives all your guilt, who heals every one of your ills, who redeems your life from the grave, who crowns you with love and compassion. (R.)

His wrath will come to an end; he will not be angry for ever. He does not treat us according to our sins nor repay us according to our faults (R.)

For as the heavens are high above the earth so strong is his love for those who fear him. As far as the east is from the west so far does he remove our sins. (R.)

Second Reading Romans 14:7-9

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

Whether alive or dead, we belong to the Lord.

The life and death of each of us has its influence on others; if we live, we live for the Lord; and if we die, we die for the Lord, so that alive or dead we belong to the Lord. This explains why Christ both died and came to life, it was so that he might be Lord both of the dead and of the living.

The Word of the Lord
Thanks be to God

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, alleluia!

I give you a new commandment: love one another as I have loved you.

Alleluia!

Gospel Matthew 18:21-35

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

I tell you that you forgive not seven times but seventy times seven.

Peter went up to Jesus and said, 'Lord, how often must I forgive my brother if he wrongs me? As often as seven times?' Jesus answered, 'Not seven, I tell you, but seventy-seven times.'

'And so the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who decided to settle his accounts with his servants. When the reckoning began, they brought him a man who owed ten thousand talents; but he had no means of paying, so his master gave orders that he should be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, to meet the debt. At this, the servant threw himself down at his master's feet. "Give me time," he said "and I will pay the whole sum." And the servant's master felt so sorry for him that he let him go and cancelled the debt. Now as this servant went out, he happened to meet a fellow servant who owed him one hundred denarii; and he seized him by the throat and began to throttle him. "Pay what you owe me", he said. His fellow servant fell at his feet and implored him, saying, "Give me time and I will pay you." But the other would not agree; on the contrary, he had him thrown into prison till he should pay the debt. His fellow servants were deeply distressed when they saw what had happened, and they went to their master and reported the whole affair to him. Then the master sent for him. "You wicked servant," he said. "I cancelled all that debt of yours when you appealed to me. Were you not bound, then, to have pity on your fellow servant just as I had pity on you?" And in his anger the master handed him over to the torturers till he should pay all his debt. And that is how my heavenly Father will deal with you unless you each forgive your brother from your heart.'

**The Gospel of the Lord
Praise to You, Lord Jesus Christ**

REFLECTION by Dianne Bergant CSA

A distinctive feature of the teachings of Jesus is his exhortation to forgive. Very explicit about this, Jesus left us his own example by forgiving his executioners while he hung dying on the cross. Until recently we thought that forgiveness begins with the offender repenting of the offence and then asking for pardon. Today many maintain that reconciliation must begin with the one offended offering forgiveness. This willingness to forgive transforms a victim into a survivor. Such magnanimity might then touch the heart of the offender, who may thus be transformed from being an offender to becoming a friend.

If God has been so generous in forgiving us, surely we should be generous in forgiving others. The process of becoming a forgiving person takes time. For some, it may take a lifetime. Only little by little are our pettiness and indignation reduced and our desire to strike back diminished. Still, as disciples, we are expected to give the forgiveness that we have been given.

Such forgiveness does not provide an easy way out for offenders, for ultimately justice will prevail. If we remain untransformed by God's forgiveness of us, we will be liable to judgment. Our unwillingness to forgive can eat away at us, and we can carry hurts from childhood far into adult years. Forgiving others, as difficult as that may be, is in the long run much easier than bearing the weight of resentment, vindictiveness and unresolved frustration. When we forgive we truly begin to be healed.

© Dianne Bergant CSA

Dianne Bergant CSA was a Professor of Biblical Studies at Catholic Theological Union in Chicago, where she taught from 1978 to 2014. She holds a BS in Elementary Education from Marian College, Fond du Lac, WI; an MA and PhD in Biblical Languages and Literature from St Louis University. Amongst other things, she served as President of Catholic Biblical Association of America (2000-2001) and has been awarded honorary doctorates from several other universities. She was an active member of the Chicago Catholic/Jewish Scholars Dialogue (1988-2017) and sat on the editorial boards of *The Bible Today* (1979-2005), *Biblical Theology Bulletin* (1990-2014), *Catholic Biblical Quarterly* (1992-2001), *New Theology Review* (1997-2003), *Teaching Theology and Religion* (2003-2005), and *Chicago Studies* (2003-2009). She has taught and lectured in many places in the United States and abroad and has written numerous books, articles and chapters in books.

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,
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: With Hope in our hearts, we turn in prayer to the God who forgives all our guilt and crowns us with love and compassion.

Prayer leader:

We pray for Bishop Michael, our Priests and Deacons, that they be given the wisdom and strength to preach the good news of Salvation and spread the word of the Gospel to God's people.....We pray. . . **Lord hear our prayer.**

We give thanks for our Sisters of St Joseph, whose presence has made a great difference to our families in this Diocese over their many years with us. May the Holy Spirit bless them, giving strength and courage as they continue to minister to those in need. . . . We pray. . . . **Lord hear our prayer.**

We pray for peace in the world; that God will help peoples to let go of bitterness and hatred, and to work for peace. . . . We pray. . . . **Lord hear our prayer.**

We pray for our Church, that it may be a place of healing and forgiveness. We pray for those who have been abused by others, that they may find solace in God's great love for them and bring peace into their lives. We ask forgiveness for the perpetrators that they repent their wrong doings..... We pray. . . . **Lord hear our prayer.**

We pray for those who have been affected by the devastation of the earthquake in Morocco, give strength and courage to the communities for them to begin again and have faith in the love and mercy of our God. . . . We pray. . . . **Lord hear our prayer.**

We pray for all our people who are ill, those near and dear to us that the Lord may strengthen and heal them. . . . We pray. . . . **Lord hear our prayer.**

We ask the goodness of God on all our people who have died, especially John Devitt, Fay Lawler, Ray Peterson and Jan Richardson and to all those whose anniversaries occur at this time. . . . We pray . . . **Lord hear our prayer.**

Celebrant: Lord God and Father, help us to forgive all who have ever offended us, and so open our hearts with hope and gain the love of Your blessings. We make our prayer through your precious Son, 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

How precious is your mercy, O God! The children of men seek shelter in the shadow of your wings.

We pray those who have died this week

John Devitt, Fay Lawler, Ray Peterson, Jan Richardson

We remember those whose Anniversaries occur around this time including

Monica Bray, Gwen Cerveny, Ellen & Len Collins, Kathleen & Mervyn Collins, Ross Foley, Marjorie Grace Hill, Shane Anthony Mortley, Mary Rampling, Deborah Wholert, Matthew Saunders

We pray for those who are sick at this time

Mari Shivanthi Abeykeon, Ian-Christopher Bajo, Lorraine Bartlett, Patrick Brennan, Judy Mary Carmody, Olga Charlton, Luke Crotty, Nickolee Dennis, Oneli Disaaynayake, Alfredo Doctor, John Fielding, Yvonne Mary Fielding, Dianne Fryer, Rev Fr Joseph Selvan Fifarado, Annette & Pete Flood, Leanne Hardy, Colin Harmes, Mavis Hoadley, Gregory Hurney, Randy Janzen, Jolanta Jenkinson, Karen Kenyon, Michael Lockyer, Jaime Marquez, Simeon (Jaime) Marquez, Nonette Mase, Judy Massey, Mharielle Munoz, Colette Nancarrow, Rita O'Brien, Carlo Panlilio, Collin Perera, Peter & Tracey Perry, Jen Phillips, Anthony Y Poblador (USA), Mary Pullin, Rohini Rajakaruna, Casey Rippon, Ella Rusak, Olga Rusak, Biyatrise Samaratunga, Steven Small, Anne Standing, Bill Temperley, Nilda Walker, John Williams, Gary Wills, Jo Winkler

We pray for those who will be Baptised

Eleanore Grace Bell, Nora Jean Chaney, Luna Ester Arabella Fitzgerald, Adalyn Poole, Austin Reed, Lydia Eden-Rose Sheridan

Fr George, Fr John and Fr Maurie will be on Clergy Retreat from Monday 18th—Friday 22nd September. Please keep them in your prayers.

Join us for our **2nd Annual Pet Blessing**
Tuesday 17th October at 4.30pm at St Joseph's
East Maitland

We invite you to a special Pet Blessing Ceremony to celebrate the furry, feathered, and finned members of our families. Bring your beloved pets, big or small, and join us for a meaningful blessing.

This event is an opportunity to:

- Receive a blessing for your pet
- Share stories and fellowship with other pet owners
- Celebrate the bond between humans and animals

We look forward to seeing you and your cherished companions at this heartwarming event.

All are welcome!

To ensure the safety and comfort of all attendees please remember to keep your pets restrained with leashes, carriers or other appropriate means.

For anyone involved in Altar Serving
You're Invited to **Our Altar Server Thank You BBQ!**
We want to express our heartfelt gratitude for your dedicated service to your parish.

To celebrate your contributions, we invite you to a special Altar Server Thank You BBQ!

Date: Wednesday 27th September

Time: 12.30pm, St Joseph's Church, East Maitland
BYO - Picnic Rug or Chair

Please RSVP by 20th September to ensure we have enough food and drinks for everyone.

rebecca.piefke@mn.catholic.org.au or **0249338918**

Let Bec know if you have any dietary requirements.

We can't wait to share this special day with you.

See you there!

Home Communion commissioning will commence from this weekend 16/17 September.

✠Fr George extends an invitation to all of you to join him on a journey to the sacred Marian shrines of Europe in March 2024. Contact the parish office for more information.

WEEKDAY MASS ROSTER

Tues 19th September (*St Januarius, bishop, martyr*)

5.30pm Mass, St Joseph's, East Maitland

Wed 20th September (*Sts Andrew Kim Tae-gon, priest, martyr, Paul Chong Ha-sang & companions, martyrs*)

7.00pm Mass, Holy Family, Largs

Thurs 21st September (*St Matthew, apostle, evangelist*)

7.00am Mass, St Joseph's, East Maitland

6.00pm Syro-Malabar Mass, Immaculate Conception, Morpeth

Fri 22nd September

7.00am Mass, St Joseph's, East Maitland

Sat 23rd September (*St Pius of Pietrelcina, priest*)

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

Sun 24th September

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

Caritas Australia's Emergency Appeals Morocco/Libya

Caritas Australia needs your support to respond to the devastating earthquake in Morocco and floods in Libya. Thousands of people have died and others have been injured. Communities need shelter, food water and medical assistance. Please support **Caritas Australia's** emergency appeals. Donate at www.caritas.org.au



NATSICC 2023

Please join us for 'Table Conversations' facilitated by Jennifer Rumbel, proud Gamilaraay woman and member of the Diocesan Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Catholic Ministry. To learn more about the Indigenous Voice to Parliament. At the Therry Centre, King Street East Maitland Sunday 24/9/2023, 1.30 pm for 2pm – 4pm. Cost: Free but cash donations welcome. Contact Helen: 043 933 4000 or Yvonne: 0432 550 986.

Register at <https://thevoicechisholm.eventbrite.com.au>

RSVPs close 5pm Wednesday 20 September.

PARISH EMPLOYEE & VOLUNTEER SAFEGUARDING TRAINING

Saturday 7th October 2023, at Club Singleton

William Street Singleton

9.30am – 12.30pm

The Office of Safeguarding is providing training Course 2: Safeguarding in Singleton. This training forms part of the Diocese's mandatory training regime and is specifically designed to support parish workers undertaking a broad range of ministries in church facilities and out in the community. The training is specifically designed to support volunteers in parishes. Please register your attendance at one of the following sessions by contacting the parish office directly or the Office of Safeguarding on 4979 1390 or emailing: oosgtraining@mn.catholic.org.au

✠**Craft Group** - All are welcome to join the weekly craft group Monday's in the Therry Centre, East Maitland from 9.30am - 12pm.

✠ PIETY STALL AT ST. JOSEPH'S CHURCH

New Bibles and books have arrived.

Open after Sunday Masses at St. Joseph's Church.

We need some help to assist with the Piety Stall. If you may be able to assist please contact the parish office.

PRIVATE PRAYER / ADORATION

Mon 18th September

9.30am-11.00am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

11.00am-12pm Adoration/Holy Hour, St Joseph's, East Maitland

Tues 19th September

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

Wed 20th September

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

Thurs 21st September

9.30-10.30am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

7.00pm Marian Movement of Priests Rosary

Both at St Joseph's East Maitland

Fri 22nd September

7.30am Adoration, St Joseph's, EM

9.30am Prayer of the Church, OLOL, Beresfield