

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
49338918

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.



FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

YEAR B, Sunday 3rd December 2023

Advent Candle Prayer Response

R: Come Lord Jesus

Entrance Antiphon

To you, I lift up my soul, O my God.
In you, I have trusted; let me not be
put to shame.

Nor let my enemies exult over me;
and let none who hope in you be put
to shame.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

First Reading

Isaiah 63:16-17; 64:1. 3-8

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

*Oh that you would tear the heavens apart and
come down.*

You, Lord, yourself are our Father,
Our Redeemer is your ancient name.
Why, Lord, leave us to stray from your
ways and harden our hearts against
fearing you?

Return, for the sake of your servants,
the tribes of your inheritance.

Oh, that you would tear the heavens
open and come down – at your
Presence the mountains would melt.

No ear has heard, no eye has seen
any god but you act like this for those
who trust him. You guide those who act
with integrity and keep your ways in
mind. You were angry when we were
sinners; we had long been rebels
against you. We were all like men
unclean, all that integrity of ours like
filthy clothing. We have all withered like
leaves and our sins blew us away like
the wind. No one invoked your name
or roused himself to catch hold of you.

For you hid your face from us
and gave us up to the power of our sins.
And yet, Lord, you are our Father;
we the clay, you the potter, we are all
the work of your hand.

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

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 79:2-3. 15-16. 18-19 R. v.4

**Lord, make us turn to you, let us
see your face and we shall be
saved.**

O shepherd of Israel, hear us, shine
forth from your cherubim throne.

O Lord, rouse up your might,
O Lord, come to our help. (R.)

God of hosts, turn again, we implore,
look down from heaven and see.

Visit this vine and protect it,
the vine your right hand has planted.

(R.)

May your hand be on the man you have
chosen, the man you have given your
strength. And we shall never forsake
you again: give us life that we may call
upon your name. (R.)

Second Reading

1 Corinthians 1:3-9

A reading from the first letter of St
Paul to the Corinthians

*The revelation we looked for, Christ Jesus our
Lord.*

May God our Father and the Lord
Jesus Christ send you grace and
peace.

I never stop thanking God for all the
graces you have received through
Jesus Christ. I thank him that you
have been enriched in so many ways,
especially in your teachers and
preachers; the witness to Christ has
indeed been strong among you so that
you will not be without any of the gifts
of the Spirit while you are waiting for
our Lord Jesus Christ to be revealed;
and he will keep you steady and
without blame until the last day, the
day of our Lord Jesus Christ, because
God by calling you has joined you to
his Son, Jesus Christ; and God is
faithful.

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

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, alleluia!

Lord, show us your mercy and love,
and grant us your salvation.

Alleluia, alleluia!

Gospel

Mark 13:33-37

A reading from the holy Gospel
according to Mark

*Stay awake! You never know when the Lord
will come.*

Jesus said to his disciples: 'Be on your
guard, stay awake, because you never
know when the time will come. It is like
a man travelling abroad: he has gone
from home, and left his servants in
charge, each with his own task; and
he has told the doorkeeper to stay
awake. So stay awake, because you
do not know when the master of the
house is coming, evening, midnight,
cockcrow, dawn; if he comes
unexpectedly, he must not find you
asleep. And what I say to you I say to
all: Stay awake!'

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

REFLECTION by Fr Michael Tate

Timely Living and the End of History

Our Lord portrays himself as the Master who goes away on a journey. It is certain that he will return, even if no-one in his household knows exactly when. That is *our* situation. What do we do in anticipation?

Our Lord, the Master, indicates we have a choice. We can close our eyes and enter into the world of dreams where we create our own fantasy futures, or we can stay awake and alert to do what Our Lord wants us to do: 'He left his *servants* in charge, giving to each his work.'

You and me – his servants – have a particular role or work in and for this phase of human history. A deep down intuition, prompted by the Holy Spirit, indicates what this is. We must be true to this assignment.

We could take a moment to pray that, when the Lord returns, we may hear: 'Come, good and *faithful* servant, inherit the Kingdom prepared for you since the foundation of the world.'

© 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,
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:

All powerful God and Father, You call all Your people to be Your own. Help us to have true faith in the promise of the words of your Son Jesus, as we place our prayer before You.

Prayer Leader

For Pope Francis, our own Bishop Michael, and the Priests of our Diocese. That they be faithful in the Hope of this new Advent by spreading the words of the Gospel renewing in us of the love, that Christ has for us. . . . Loving Lord. . . **Hear our prayer.**

We ask the Holy Spirit for special Blessings for Father Maurice Cahill and Father John Vo Vien as we join with them in celebrating their Ordination Day at this time. . . . Loving Lord. . . . **Hear our prayer.**

We pray that all God's people believe deeply in the sanctity of human life. We ask especially that the sick and suffering may experience the love of their Heavenly Father. . . . Loving Lord. . . . **Hear our prayer.**

May the Holy Spirit touch the hearts of all our communities in the Chisholm Region with the Love of Christ, keeping us awake and ready to serve, in faith, hope and love, forever knowing the joy of Your presence Loving Lord. . . . **Hear our prayer.**

We pray for those who have lost their way in life, especially those in the war-torn countries in the middle east. May their faith may be strengthened and find new hope in this Advent season from the promise God made to all His Creation. . . . Loving Lord. . . . **Hear our prayer.**

For our relatives and friends who are not able to join us in the true presence of Jesus at Eucharist. May they feel the love that Jesus has for each one. . . . Loving Lord. . . . **Hear our prayer.**

For those who have died especially Esme Bisson, John Bower, Moya Dwyer, Marilyn Kasprzak and those who no one remembers, that God may keep them in His loving care . . . Loving Lord.

Hear our prayer.

Celebrant: Heavenly Father keep our light of hope shining, help us to have confidence in Your unchanging love for us, giving us the strength to persevere in all goodness. We ask this 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 will bestow his bounty, and our earth shall yield its increase. The Lord will bless his people with peace.to place my hope in God the Lord.

We pray those who have died this week

Esme Bisson, John Lawrence Bower, Moya Dwyer, Marilyn Kasprzak (Maz)

We remember those whose Anniversaries occur around this time including

Hazel Brennan, Margaret Dunn (nee Lewis), Winifred Hill, Geoffrey V Thompson, Graham Wholert

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, Timothy Clifton, Luke Crotty, Nickolee Dennis, Oneli Disaaynayake, Alfredo Doctor, James Edwards, John Fielding, Yvonne Mary Fielding, Dianne Fryer, Rev Fr Joseph Selvan Fifarado, Barbara Filas, Annette & Pete Flood, Leanne Hardy, Colin Harnes, Penny Heagney, Gregory Hurney, Randy Janzen, Jolanta Jenkinson, Karen Kenyon, Michael Lockyer, Jaime Marquez, Simeon (Jaime) Marquez, Nonette Mase, Judy Massey, Marielle Munoz, Carlo Panlilio, Collin Perera, Jen Phillips, Anthony Y Poblador (USA), Mary Pullin, Rohini Rajakaruna, 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

Lara Kate Cunningham, Brianica Chantle Fernandez, Uchechi Nwaokorie, Hamish William Thompson

© The scriptural quotations are taken from the Jerusalem Bible, published and copyright 1966, 1967 and 1968 by Darton Longman and Todd Ltd and Doubleday & Co Inc, and used by permission of the publishers. The English translation of the Psalm Responses, the Alleluia and Gospel Verses, and the Lenten Gospel Acclamations, and the Titles, Summaries, and Conclusion of the Readings, from the Lectionary for Mass © 1997, 1981, 1968, International Committee on English in the Liturgy, Inc. All rights reserved. The prayers are from the English Translation of the Roman Missal © 2010 International Committee on English in the Liturgy Inc. (ICEL). All rights reserved.



Advent Reconciliation 2023

- ✠ Saturday 16th December after the 8.00am Mass, St Joseph's East Maitland
- ✠ Thursday 21st December 6.00pm, St Joseph's East Maitland
- ✠ Saturday 23rd December after the 8.00am Mass, St Joseph's East Maitland



Christmas Vigils Sunday 24th December 2023

- ✠ 6.00pm St Joseph's, East Maitland
- ✠ 6.30pm Our Lady of Lourdes, Beresfield
- ✠ 7.00pm St Paul's Rutherford



Christmas Day Monday 25th December 2023

- ✠ 7.15am Immaculate Conception, Morpeth
- ✠ 8.00am St Paul's, Rutherford
- ✠ 8.00am Holy Family, Largs
- ✠ 8.30am St Joseph's, East Maitland
- ✠ 9.30am St Patrick, Lochinvar
- ✠ 9.30am St Columba's Paterson

Bishop's visitation schedule for this weekend

DAY/DATE	MASS-TIME	
Saturday 2/12	6.30pm	Campbell's Hill at Rutherford
Sunday 3/12	8am	Largs
	9.30am	Paterson
	6pm	East Maitland

Sacraments of Initiation 2024

If you would like your child to make their Sacraments next year please attend one of the following sessions.

Tuesday 6pm on 5th December at **St Paul's Church Rutherford OR**

Wednesday 6pm on 6th December at **St Joseph's Church, East Maitland, OR**

Thursday 6pm on 7th December at **Our Lady of Lourdes Church, Beresfield.**

For further information please take a parent letter from your church foyer, check the school 'compass' or email SOlchisholm@mn.catholic.org.au

We cordially invite youth, families, and those interested to talk and share about the Scripture - Bible sharing. Held weekly during school term. On Fridays, at 7:00 pm, in the Therry Centre East Maitland. Rsvp. Sr. Paula 0449 656 406

PIETY STALL AT ST. JOSEPH'S CHURCH

Christmas stock, Nativities, candles, ornaments and great range of books, bibles, and missals available, as well as rosary beads, scapulars etc.

If you would like an anniversary included in the bulletin on the weekend of 23/24 or 30/31 December please send the name to the parish office by 13th December.

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 5th December

5.30pm Mass, St Joseph's, East Maitland

Wed 6th December (*St Nicholas, bishop*)

7.00pm Mass, Holy Family, Largs

Thurs 7th December (*St Ambrose, bishop, doctor*)

7.00am Mass, St Joseph's, East Maitland

6.00pm Syro-Malabar Mass, Immaculate Conception, Morpeth

Fri 8th December (*The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary*)

7.00am Mass, St Joseph's, East Maitland

8.00am Mass, Immaculate Conception, Morpeth

Sat 9th December

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

Sun 10th December

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

Feast Day Mass for the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin 8.00am Friday 8th December at Immaculate Conception Church, Morpeth

Hungry, anxious and desperate. CHRISTMAS WILL LOOK DIFFERENT THIS YEAR FOR STRUGGLING FAMILIES. An invitation is extended to all parishioners throughout the Region to contribute towards the **St Vincent de Paul Christmas Appeal**, which will be conducted over the next couple of weekends. Envelopes will be available in parish churches. People can also donate by calling 131812 or visiting vinnies.org.au. This Christmas, more people are experiencing poverty and on the brink of homelessness. After struggling with the cost-of-living crisis for over a year, they barely have anything left to hold on to. As the crisis deepens, so does their desperation. This is an opportunity to think of others who are struggling in our community and make their Christmas a little brighter.

SAVE THE DATE Catholic Women's League Australia NSW Maitland-Newcastle Diocese, AGM Saturday, 20th January 2024.

A meeting is being held to discuss the concern regarding the ongoing matter of the drum cover at St Joseph's East Maitland Church.

The meeting will take place on Thursday 7th December at 5pm.

It is evident that finding a permanent solution is crucial and we are actively working towards resolving it. The goal of this meeting is to gain a thorough understanding of everyone's concerns and work collaboratively towards a lasting solution.

All Welcome

If you or a loved one would like Home Communion please call the parish office on 49338918 or email chisholm@mn.catholic.org.au and we will organise this for you.

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

PRIVATE PRAYER / ADORATION
Mon 4th December

9.30am-11.00am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

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

Tues 5th December

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

Wed 6th December

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

Thurs 7th December

9.30-10.30am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
7.00pm Marian Movement of Priests Rosary
Both at St Joseph's East Maitland

Fri 8th December

7.30am Adoration, St Joseph's, EM

9.30am Prayer of the Church, OLOL, Beresfield