



PARISH OFFICE : 302 High St Maitland
Tuesday - Friday 9.30am - 4.30pm
Closed for lunch 1.00pm - 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 8.00am.

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 Camillus Nwahia
Fr Priyantha Fernando

Presbytery 4934 5783

Urgent Priest on Duty 0428 017 273

Support Clergy

Fr Maurice Cahill

Fr Greg Arnold

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

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.

Entrance Antiphon

Of you my heart has spoken, Seek his
face. It is your face, O Lord, that I seek;
hide not your face from me.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

First Reading

Genesis 22:1-2. 9-13. 15-18

A reading from the book of Genesis

The sacrifice of Abraham, our father in faith.

God put Abraham to the test. 'Abraham,
Abraham,' he called.' Here I am' he
replied. 'Take your son,' God said 'your
only child Isaac, whom you love, and go
to the land of Moriah. There you shall
offer him as a burnt offering, on a
mountain I will point out to you.'

When they arrived at the place God had
pointed out to him, Abraham built an
altar there, and arranged the wood.
Then he bound his son Isaac and put
him on the altar on top of the wood.
Abraham stretched out his hand and
seized the knife to kill his son.

But the angel of the Lord called to him
from heaven. 'Abraham, Abraham' he
said. 'I am here' he replied. 'Do not raise
your hand against the boy' the angel
said. 'Do not harm him, for now I know
you fear God. You have not refused me
your son, your only son.' Then looking
up, Abraham saw a ram caught by its
horns in a bush. Abraham took the ram
and offered it as a burnt offering in place
of his son.

The angel of the Lord called Abraham a
second time from heaven. 'I swear by
my own self – it is the Lord who speaks
– because you have done this, because
you have not refused me your son, your
only son, I will shower blessings on you,
I will make your descendants as many
as the stars of heaven and the grains of
sand on the seashore. Your
descendants shall gain possession of
the gates of your enemies. All the
nations of the earth shall bless
themselves by your descendants, as a
reward for your obedience.'

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

Resp. Psalm Ps 115:10. 15-19. R. 114:9

**I will walk in the presence of the
Lord in the land of the living.**

I trusted, even when I said: 'I am sorely
afflicted.' O precious in the eyes of the
Lord is the death of his faithful. (R.)

Your servant, Lord, your servant am I;
you have loosened my bonds.

A thanksgiving sacrifice I make:
I will call on the Lord's name. (R.)

My vows to the Lord I will fulfil
before all his people, in the courts of the
house of the Lord, in your midst, O
Jerusalem. (R.)

Second Reading Romans 8:31-34

A reading from the letter of St Paul to
the Romans

God did not spare his own Son.

With God on our side who can be
against us? Since God did not spare his
own Son, but gave him up to benefit us
all, we may be certain, after such a gift,
that he will not refuse anything he can
give. Could anyone accuse those that
God has chosen? When God acquits,
could anyone condemn? Could Christ
Jesus? No! He not only died for us – he
rose from the dead, and there at God's
right hand he stands and pleads for us.

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

Gospel Acclamation: Glory and
praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

From the shining cloud, the Father's
voice is heard: this is my beloved Son,
hear him. Glory and praise to you, Lord
Jesus Christ!

Gospel Mark 9:2-10

A reading from the holy Gospel
according to Mark

This is my Son, the beloved; listen to him.

Jesus took with him Peter and James
and John and led them up a high
mountain where they could be alone by
themselves. There in their presence he
was transfigured: his clothes became
dazzlingly white, whiter than any earthly
bleacher could make them. Elijah
appeared to them with Moses; and they
were talking with Jesus. Then Peter
spoke to Jesus. 'Rabbi,' he said 'it is
wonderful for us to be here; so let us
make three tents, one for you, one for
Moses and one for Elijah.' He did not
know what to say; they were so
frightened. And a cloud came, covering
them in shadow; and there came a voice
from the cloud, 'This is my Son, the
Beloved. Listen to him.' Then suddenly,
when they looked round, they saw no
one with them any more but only Jesus.
As they came down from the mountain
he warned them to tell no one what they
had seen, until after the Son of Man had
risen from the dead. They observed the
warning faithfully, though among
themselves they discussed what 'rising
from the dead' could mean.

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

REFLECTION by Nick Brodie

'We too are called to climb up the mountain,' says Pope Francis, like the chosen disciples. But, as he points out, we are also called to bring our experience back down the mountain.

In our own lives, one way of understanding this is to contemplate our personal spiritual behaviours. The Pope takes the opportunity of this Gospel to remind us to beware of the risk of 'spiritual laziness'. Are we tempted to 'remain on the mountain and enjoy the bliss of this encounter on our own'? Do we risk taking too much private and possessive comfort from 'our prayers and liturgies'?

As the Pope points out, we cannot stay on the mountain. 'Jesus himself brings us back to the valley, among our brothers and sisters and into daily life.' There is work to be done. It is not enough to come to Mass and posture and pray in a way that is cut off from life. The Church should never become a means of escaping reality or responsibility.

'We', the Pope proclaims, 'are called to experience the encounter with Christ so that, enlightened by his light, we might take it and make it shine everywhere.' Called up the mountain, we are sent down the mountain to go forth and take the mystery of the Transfigured One with us wherever we may go. We cannot do that if we keep our heads stuck in tents of our own making.

© Nick Brodie

Nick Brodie is an Australian historian and writer who is currently Dean of Academic Studies of Jane Franklin Hall in Hobart. A graduate of the Australian National University, Flinders University, and the University of Tasmania, he is the author of several books on Australian history and numerous essays on historical, political, and religious topics. In 2017 he was awarded the Bruce Mansfield Prize for the best article in the Journal of Religious History. He is currently studying Theology.

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,
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: If God is for us, who can be against us, says today's Scriptures. Let us put our prayers before this wonderful Father, ever-ready to listen to his children.

Prayer Leader

Lord with Peter we can cry: 'It is wonderful for us to be here. 'Teach your Church; Bishops, Priests, Deacons and all People to listen deep within to the teaching of your beloved Son. . .

In faith we pray...**Lord graciously hear us.**

May the Holy Spirit lead and guide the leaders of the troubled world, especially in the middle east countries, to bring love and peace...In faith we pray. . .

...**Lord graciously hear us.**

We pray that the Transfiguration of Jesus, who shone so gloriously, may increase our faith and hope in this Beloved Son of the Father. . . In faith we pray. . . **Lord graciously hear us.**

For those who doubt: may they have the trust that Abraham had, resting in their hearts and receive the many blessings that our God has for them. . . In faith we pray. . .**Lord graciously hear us.**

That our commitment to Project Compassion will bring new hope and new life to all those who suffer and struggle, especially the people that are starving throughout the World. . . In faith we pray. . .**Lord graciously hear us.**

For the sick, the lonely and the marginalised: . . .May they find hope in the healing presence of our Loving Lord and in the support and love of brothers and sisters..... In faith we pray. . . .**Lord graciously hear us.**

We pray for all those who have died recently and all our relatives and friends gone before us. May they now rejoice in the glory of God.....In faith we pray. . . .**Lord graciously hear us.**

Celebrant: We thank you, God the Father, for revealing to us your beloved Son of glory, who teaches us the path of life. We make all our prayers in His name: through Christ Jesus our Lord Amen

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: This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; listen to him.

We pray those who have died this week

We remember those whose Anniversaries occur around this time including

Don Johnson, Ray McDonnell, Joy & Pat McNamara, James Saunders, Chris Smith, Michael Tobin,
Ted & Gloria Trunk

We pray for those who are sick at this time

Mari Shivanthi Abeykeon, Angeles Adapon, Teresa Almanza, Ian-Christopher Bajo, Lorraine Bartlett,
Patrick Brennan, Shari Maria Brewster, Marcia Callinan, Judy Mary Carmody, Olga Charlton,
Timothy Clifton, Luke Crotty, Oneli Disaaynayake, Alfredo Doctor, James Edwards, Mary Ferry,
John Fielding, Yvonne Mary Fielding, Dianne Fryer, Rev Fr Joseph Selvan Fifarado, Barbara Filas,
Annette & Pete Flood, Greg Grainger, Leanne Hardy, Gregory Hurney, Randy Janzen, Jolanta Jenkinson,
Karen Kenyon, Michael Lockyer, Nonette Mase, Judy Massey, Marielle Munoz, Carlo Panlilio,
Collin Perera, Jen Phillips, Anthony Y Poblador (USA), Mary Pullin, Rohini Rajakaruna, Olga Roberts,
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

Lennox Craig Nosworthy, Bernie Lou O'Brien, Roman George O'Brien,
Vincent Leo O'Brien, Felix James Watson

We pray for the RCIA Elect & Candidates

Steven Good, Hayley Grosveld, Kyle Haines, Rebecca Haines, Melissa Haley,
Lachlan Jones-Mashman, Jamie Kent, Luke Kent, Kylie Murray, Belinda Shaw, Chris Shaw

We pray for those who will be Married this week

Brooke Dominique Alexandria Sidoti and Ryan John Clive Cox

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

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After the birth of her children, 22-year-old **Ronita** was at risk of having to leave school permanently. But, with the support of Caritas Australia's partners in the Philippines, she resumed her studies and secured a job at a call centre to support her family.

Please donate to Project Compassion.

You can donate through Project Compassion donation boxes and envelopes available from your parish, by visiting caritas.org.au/project-compassion or by calling 1800 024 413.

Photo: Richard Wainwright/Caritas Australia



Youth Group Volunteers needed If you're interested in volunteering for the youth ministry, please contact Bec Piefke 49338918 or rebecca.piefke@mn.catholic.org.au

If you or a loved one would like **Home Communion** please call the parish office on 49338918 or email chisholm@mn.catholic.org.au

Bible Study for families & youth (18–35) at 6pm in the Prayer Room of the East Maitland Church. Tuesdays during school term. RSVP Sr Paula 044 965 6406

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT:

First Friday of each month - from after Mass at 7am till 8.00am Mass on Saturday at St Joseph's East Maitland. Next Date: Friday 1st March 2024. All are welcome.

Could the person who placed a plain envelope containing cash on the plate for the 2nd collection at St Paul's (Rutherford) 8.00am Mass on Sunday 18th February please contact the parish office.

The Maitland Parish Community invite all people to come and join us in **praying the Rosary to Our Blessed Mother** on **Monday nights, 7pm at St Paul's Church, Rutherford**. There will be a petition box available if you would like to place your own personal petition.

A State School Religion Teacher is needed for class 1/2 at Ashtonfield Public School, on Tuesday afternoons from 2.00 to 2.30. This is an excellent class. Training and books are available. Phone Jan Healy 0411535882 or Sue O'Donohue 0414890813.

BERESFIELD CATHOLIC LADIES GROUP: The next meeting will be this **Tuesday, 27th 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.

STATIONS OF CROSS - Friday's during Lent
6pm. Our Lady of Lourdes Church, Beresfield.
7pm St Joseph's Church, East Maitland.

SAVE THE DATE - St. Patrick's Feast Day

Everyone is invited to join the St. Patrick's Day Feast celebration on Sunday, March 17th at St. Patrick's Lochinvar Church. Mass starts at 9:30 am followed by a joyful celebration. Stay tuned for more details to come!

The Regional Youth Mass, extends a warm welcome to the kindergarten families in our region and invite the families to join us for a special Kindergarten Welcome Mass on **Sunday, March 17th , 6pm, at St Joseph's East Maitland**. After the mass, there will be a BBQ and cake for everyone to enjoy and celebrate together!

PIETY STALL AT ST. JOSEPH'S CHURCH

Closed this weekend 24/ 25th February
 'Daily Mass' books for this year 2024 available \$25

Craft Group is held each Monday

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

WEEKDAY MASS ROSTER

Tues 27th February
5.30pm Mass, St Joseph's, East Maitland
(Collect of St Gregory of Narek, abbot, doctor)

Wed 28th February
7.00pm Mass, Holy Family, Largs

Thurs 29th February
7.00am Mass, St Joseph's, East Maitland
6.00pm Syro-Malabar Mass, Immaculate Conception, Morpeth

Fri 1st March (Autum Ember Day)
7.00am Mass, St Joseph's, East Maitland

Sat 2nd March
8.00am Mass/Reconciliation, St Joseph's, East Maitland

Sun 25th February
9.00am Mass—Polish, St Mary's Chapel (Victoria St Maitland)

PRIVATE PRAYER / ADORATION

Mon 26th February
9.30am-10.30am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

Tues 27th February
9.30am-10.30am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, St Joseph's, East Maitland

Wed 28th February
9.30am-10.30am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, St Joseph's, East Maitland

Thurs 29th February
9.30-10.30am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
7.00pm Marian Movement of Priests Rosary
 Both at St Joseph's East Maitland

Fri 1st March
7.30am Fri—8am **Sat 2nd March** Adoration, St Joseph's, EM
9.30am Prayer of the Church, OLOL , Beresfield

See front of bulletin for weekend Mass times