



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 Camillus Nwahia

Fr Priyantha Fernando

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

#### 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**

Be my protector, O God,  
a mighty stronghold to save me.  
For you are my rock, my stronghold!  
Lead me, guide me, for the sake of  
your name.

#### **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** Leviticus 13:1-2. 44-46

A reading from the book of Leviticus

*As long as he is unclean, he must live alone, outside the camp.*

The Lord said to Moses and Aaron, 'If a swelling or scab or shiny spot appears on a man's skin, a case of leprosy of the skin is to be suspected. The man must be taken to Aaron, the priest, or to one of the priests who are his sons.

'The man is leprous: he is unclean. The priest must declare him unclean; he is suffering from leprosy of the head. A man infected with leprosy must wear his clothing torn and his hair disordered; he must shield his upper lip and cry, "Unclean, unclean". As long as the disease lasts he must be unclean; and therefore he must live apart; he must live outside the camp.'

**The Word of the Lord**

**Thanks be to God**

#### **Resp. Psalm** Ps 31:1-2. 5. 11. R. v.7

**I turn to you, Lord, in time of trouble, and you fill me with the joy of salvation.**

Happy the man whose offence is forgiven, whose sin is remitted. O happy the man to whom the Lord imputes no guilt, in whose spirit is no guile. (R.)

But now I have acknowledged my sins; my guilt I did not hide. I said: 'I will confess my offence to the Lord.' And you, Lord, have forgiven the guilt of my sin. (R.)

Rejoice, rejoice in the Lord, exult, you just! O come, ring out your joy, all you upright of heart. (R.)

#### **Second Reading** 1 Corinthians 10:31 - 11:1

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

*Be imitators of me, as I am of Christ.*

Whatever you eat, whatever you drink, whatever you do at all, do it for the glory of God. Never do anything offensive to anyone - to Jews or Greeks or to the Church of God; just as I try to be helpful to everyone at all times, not anxious for my own advantage but for the advantage of everybody else, so that they may be saved.

Take me for your model, as I take Christ.

**The Word of the Lord**

**Thanks be to God**

#### **Gospel Acclamation:**

**Alleluia, alleluia!** A great prophet has appeared among us; God has visited his people. **Alleluia!**

#### **Gospel** Mark 1:40-45

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark

*The leprosy left him and he was cured.*

A leper came to Jesus and pleaded on his knees: 'If you want to' he said 'you can cure me.' Feeling sorry for him, Jesus stretched out his hand and touched him. 'Of course I want to!' he said. 'Be cured!' And the leprosy left him at once and he was cured. Jesus immediately sent him away and sternly ordered him, 'Mind you say nothing to anyone, but go and show yourself to the priest, and make the offering for your healing prescribed by Moses as evidence of your recovery.' The man went away, but then started talking about it freely and telling the story everywhere, so that Jesus could no longer go openly into any town, but had to stay outside in places where nobody lived. Even so, people from all around would come to him.

**The Gospel of the Lord**

**Praise to You, Lord Jesus Christ**

## REFLECTION by Dianne Bergant CSA

We know that we will all have to face some kind of suffering, and so we try to prepare ourselves for it. Yet when it comes, as prepared as we try to be, it can overtake us with such fury that we fall back defenceless. We look to others for support and assistance, and if we are fortunate, we find it. However, even in the most supportive of communities, suffering tends to alienate us from those who are healthy and secure. Suffering reminds us of our own finitude and the contingent nature of all of life. It threatens our sense of order.

Jesus is not deterred by human suffering. He welcomes all who approach him; his healing touch reincorporates those who have been ostracised; his loving embrace reassociates those who have been alienated. In the reign of God, there are no outsiders. All belong to Jesus, and, therefore, all belong to each other. When the one afflicted is embraced by the community, the community is an authentic manifestation of the inclusive reign of God.

In suffering we witness human vulnerability and our desperate need of each other and of God. There, at the edge of life and on the fringes of the community, we may experience the tenderness and compassion of God. The loving touch of Christ that can heal our souls, if not our bodies. It is there that we may most authentically participate in the cross of Christ. Joined to him we are anything but unproductive or worthless.

© 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 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:** Let's bring our needs before the Lord who in His great compassion, reached out to the leper and healed him.

### Prayer leader.

We give thanks for those who lead us in faith, Bishop Michael, our Priests and Deacons. May they be blessed with the light of the Holy Spirit as they shepherd Your people in this Dioceses. . . . We Pray. . . .

**Lord hear us.**

Look with compassion, O heavenly Father, upon this troubled world, give those who are suffering the strength and courage to believe, God is with them wherever they may be. . . . We Pray. . . .

**Lord hear us.**

Help us to open our hearts to our neighbours and contribute to the Project Compassion project during this time of Lent, making life easier for those in need. . . . We Pray. . . . **Lord hear us.**

As we enter into Lenten time may we all come together to talk about 'What God is asking of us in our lives?' May we keep our Church strong in the faith, that we believe in. . . . We pray. . . . **Lord hear us.**

For the RCIA Catechumens and Candidates who are receiving the Rites of Welcome and Acceptance in our communities this weekend. May they feel the support of our prayers as they continue their faith journey. . . . We Pray. . . . **Lord hear us.**

On this feast day of Our Lady of Lourdes we pray for those who are unwell may our prayers open their hearts and eyes, so they are not alone as they bear their crosses of hardship. . . .We pray. . . .

**Lord hear us.**

Give your blessings to those who mourn the loss of their loved ones who have gone from this earthly life before us. We Pray for those who have died recently especially Rev Kevin Bates sm, Sr Therese Conroy rsj, Jennifer Enright and Joan Gregory. May they find shelter in the Eternal home and rest in your loving presence forever. . . . We pray. . . . . **Lord hear us.**

**Celebrant:** God of love and mercy, You know our weaknesses, give us the wisdom and the courage to follow Your footsteps in our journey in this life, gathering others on the way forward. 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:** They ate and had their fill, and what they craved the Lord gave them; they were not disappointed in what they craved.

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

Rev Kevin Bates sm, Sr Therese Conroy rsj, Jennifer (Jill) Enright from East Maitland, Joan Gregory

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

Brian Rex Barnett, Harrison (Harry) Meyn, Earline (Joe) Passfield, Neil Petersen,  
Ken Piper, Katherine (Katie) Saunders

***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***

Elliot Michael Baker, Audrey McCartney Baker, Ella Janette Brimble, Harlow Florance Murphy

***We pray for the RCIA Catechumens & Candidates***

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

**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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## Project Compassion Sunday



Please take home a Project Compassion box or set of donation envelopes to support Caritas Australia this Lenten season and help support vulnerable people around the world, now and for all future generations. With your support, Caritas Australia has been able to support communities around the world to tackle poverty, food security, education, water and sanitation and disaster risk reduction. You can donate through Project Compassion donation boxes and envelopes available from your parish, by visiting [caritas.org.au/project-compassion](http://caritas.org.au/project-compassion) or by calling 1800 024 413.

This weekend we welcome our Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults Catechumens and Candidates. We also welcome the children and their families who have joined the Sacraments of Initiation program.

### Join us for a Shrove Tuesday Celebration on 13th February at St. Joseph's East Maitland Church

4:30 PM - Youth Mass  
5:20 PM - Burning of Palms  
5:30 PM - Pancake Supper  
Bring your family and friends for a joyful gathering filled with fellowship and delicious pancakes. See you there!  
**Please note the change of Mass time.**

Largs Youth Group resumes Wednesday, February 14th at 5:30pm at Holy Family Church Hall. If you're interested in volunteering for the youth ministry, please contact Bec Piefke 49338918 or [rebecca.piefke@mn.catholic.org.au](mailto:rebecca.piefke@mn.catholic.org.au)

The Maitland Parish Community invite all people to come and join us in **praying the Rosary to Our Blessed Mother on Monday nights beginning 5<sup>th</sup> Feb. 7pm at St Paul's Church, Rutherford.**

There will be a petition box available if you would like to place your own personal petition.

We would like to welcome Deacon Solomon Okovido who commences his ministry within our region this weekend.

We also would like to congratulate Chris Voigt, an East Maitland Parishioner, as he was installed by our Bishop this Saturday as a Lector. A Lector is a person who has been formally appointed to Proclaim the Readings at Mass.



### ASH WEDNESDAY See Mass times below

RCIA Rite of Election of Catechumens  
18 Feb 2024 2.30pm  
Sacred Heart Cathedral, 841 Hunter St,  
Newcastle West

**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

**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.

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

**PIETY STALL AT ST. JOSEPH'S CHURCH** Open after weekend Masses. 'Daily Mass' books for this year 2024 available \$25

Our region has Catechumens who will be attending the Rite of Election. You are invited to support these people on the first Sunday of Lent. Everyone is welcome!

### ANOINTING MASS CHANGES FOR 2024

After requests from communities in our area the Liturgy Team have worked out a schedule which provides each Parish an opportunity to hold an Anointing Mass. All parishioners are most welcome to attend. Below are the first three months dates and churches. The Masses will all be on **Fridays at 10am**

16 February – Morpeth  
15 March – Rutherford/Campbells Hill  
19 April – Beresfield

### WEEKDAY MASS ROSTER

**Tues 13th February** PLEASE SEE CHANGE IN MASS TIME

**4.30pm Mass, St Joseph's, East Maitland**

**Wed 14th January** ASH WEDNESDAY

**7.00am** Mass, St Joseph's, East Maitland

**9.00am** Mass, St Paul's School, Rutherford

**7.00pm** Mass, Holy Family, Largs

**Thurs 15th February**

**7.00am** Mass, St Joseph's, East Maitland

**6.00pm** Syro-Malabar Mass, Immaculate Conception, Morpeth

**Fri 16th February**

**7.00am** Mass, St Joseph's, East Maitland

**Sat 17th February**

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

**Sun 18th February**

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

### PRIVATE PRAYER / ADORATION

**Mon 12th February**

**9.30am-10.30am** Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

**Tues 13th February**

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

**Wed 14th February**

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

**Thurs 15th 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 16th February**

**7.30am** Adoration, St Joseph's, EM  
**9.30am** Prayer of the Church, OLOL, Beresfield