



## FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT Year A Readings

### SUNDAY 10th MARCH 2024

Since the Year A gospels for the Third, Fourth and Fifth Sundays of Lent are of major importance in regard to Christian initiation, the readings of Year A can be used on these three Sundays. The Year A readings are particularly appropriate where there are Elect (Catechumens).

**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 Promotors

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 Reading** 1 Samuel 16:1. 6-7. 10-13

A reading from the first book of Samuel

*In the presence of the Lord God, they anointed David king of Israel.*

The Lord said to Samuel, 'Fill your horn with oil and go. I am sending you to Jesse of Bethlehem, for I have chosen myself a king among his sons.' When Samuel arrived, he caught sight of Eliab and thought, 'Surely the Lord's anointed one stands there before him,' but the Lord said to Samuel, 'Take no notice of his appearance or his height for I have rejected him; God does not see as man sees; man looks at appearances but the Lord looks at the heart.' Jesse presented his seven sons to Samuel, but Samuel said to Jesse, 'The Lord has not chosen these.' He then asked Jesse, 'Are these all the sons you have?' He answered, 'There is still one left, the youngest; he is out looking after the sheep.' Then Samuel said to Jesse, 'Send for him; we will not sit down to eat until he comes.' Jesse had him sent for, a boy of fresh complexion, with fine eyes and pleasant bearing. The Lord said, 'Come, anoint him, for this is the one.' At this, Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him where he stood with his brothers; and the spirit of the Lord seized on David and stayed with him from that day on.

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

#### **Responsorial Psalm** Ps 22 R. v.1

**The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.**

The Lord is my shepherd;  
there is nothing I shall want.  
Fresh and green are the pastures  
where he gives me repose.  
Near restful waters he leads me,  
to revive my drooping spirit. (R.)

He guides me along the right path;  
he is true to his name.  
If I should walk in the valley of  
darkness no evil would I fear.  
You are there with your crook and  
your staff; with these you give me  
comfort. (R.)

You have prepared a banquet for me  
In the sight of my foes.  
My head you have anointed with oil;  
My cup is overflowing. (R.)

Surely goodness and kindness shall  
follow me all the days of my life.  
In the Lord's own house shall I dwell  
for ever and ever. (R.)

#### **Second Reading** Ephesians 5:8-14

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Ephesians

*Rise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you.*

You were darkness once, but now you  
are light in the Lord; be like children of  
light, for the effects of the light are  
seen in complete goodness and right  
living and truth. Try to discover what  
the Lord wants of you, having nothing  
to do with the futile works of darkness  
but exposing them by contrast. The  
things which are done in secret are  
things that people are ashamed even  
to speak of; but anything exposed by  
the light will be illuminated and  
anything illuminated turns into light.  
That is why it is said:

Wake up from your sleep,  
rise from the dead,  
and Christ will shine on you.

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

#### **Gospel Acclamation** John 8:12

Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!

I am the light of the world, says the  
Lord; whoever follows me will have the  
light of life.

Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!

#### **Gospel** John 9:1-41

A reading from the holy Gospel  
according to John

*The blind man went off and washed himself and came away with his sight restored.*

As Jesus went along, he saw a man  
who had been blind from birth. His  
disciples asked him, 'Rabbi, who  
sinned, this man or his parents, for  
him to have been born blind?' 'Neither  
he nor his parents sinned,' Jesus  
answered, 'he was born blind so that  
the works of God might be displayed  
in him.

'As long as the day lasts  
I must carry out the work of the one  
who sent me;  
the night will soon be here when no  
one can work.

As long as I am in the world  
I am the light of the world.'

Having said this, he spat on the  
ground, made a paste with the spittle,

put this over the eyes of the blind man and said to him, 'Go and wash in the Pool of Siloam' (a name that means 'sent'). So the blind man went off and washed himself, and came away with his sight restored.

His neighbours and people who earlier had seen him begging said, 'Isn't this the man who used to sit and beg?' Some said, 'Yes, it is the same one.' Others said, 'No, he only looks like him.' The man himself said, 'I am the man.' So they said to him, 'Then how do your eyes come to be open?' 'The man called Jesus' he answered 'made a paste, daubed my eyes with it and said to me, "Go and wash at Siloam"; so I went, and when I washed I could see.' They asked, 'Where is he?' 'I don't know' he answered.

They brought the man who had been blind to the Pharisees. It had been a sabbath day when Jesus made the paste and opened the man's eyes, so when the Pharisees asked him how he had come to see, he said, 'He put a paste on my eyes, and I washed, and I can see.' Then some of the Pharisees said, 'This man cannot be from God: he does not keep the sabbath.' Others said, 'How could a sinner produce signs like this?' And there was disagreement among them. So they spoke to the blind man again, 'What have you to say about him yourself, now that he has opened your eyes?' 'He is a prophet' replied the man.

However, the Jews would not believe that the man had been blind and had gained his sight, without first sending for his parents and asking them, 'Is this man really your son who you say was born blind?

If so, how is it that he is now able to see?' His parents answered, 'We know he is our son and we know he was born blind, but we don't know how it is that he can see now, or who opened his eyes. He is old enough: let him speak for himself.' His parents spoke like this out of fear of the Jews, who had already agreed to expel from the synagogue anyone who should acknowledge Jesus as the Christ. This was why his parents said, 'He is old enough; ask him.'

So the Jews again sent for the man and said to him, 'Give glory to God! For our part, we know that this man is a sinner.' The man answered, 'I don't know if he is a sinner; I only know that I was blind and now I can see.' They said to him, 'What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?' He replied, 'I have told you once and you wouldn't listen. Why do you want to hear it all again? Do you want to become his disciples too?' At this they hurled abuse at him: 'You can be his disciple,' they said 'we are disciples of Moses: we know that God spoke to Moses, but as for this man, we don't know where he comes from.' The man replied, 'Now here is an astonishing thing! He has opened my eyes and you don't know where he comes from! We know that God doesn't listen to sinners, but God does listen to men who are devout and do his will. Ever since the world began it is unheard of for anyone to open the eyes of a man who was born blind; if this man were not from God, he couldn't do a thing.' 'Are you trying to teach us,' they replied 'and you a sinner through and through, since you were born!' And they drove him away.

Jesus heard they had driven him away, and when he found him he said to him, 'Do you believe in the Son of Man?' 'Sir,' the man replied 'tell me who he is so that I may believe in him.' Jesus said, 'You are looking at him; he is speaking to you.' The man said, 'Lord, I believe', and worshipped him.

Jesus said: 'It is for judgement that I have come into this world, so that those without sight may see and those with sight turn blind.'

Hearing this, some Pharisees who were present said to him, 'We are not blind, surely?' Jesus replied:

'Blind? If you were, you would not be guilty, but since you say, "We see", your guilt remains.'

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

### **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:** Gracious Father, lighten our darkness and open our eyes and hearts, to deepen our faith, as we place our prayers before You.

### **Prayer leader:**

For Pope Francis, Bishops, Priests and Deacons who open the words of the Gospel to all the faithful. May they be blessed with the strength and courage to spread the Holy Word of God.

.....**We pray to the Lord.**

For all who suffer through warfare or violence, especially those who are suffering in the devastation of warfare in the Middle East .....**We pray to the Lord.**

We pray for ourselves and our young people, that Christ be our light, and teach us to walk faithfully by the light of His Gospel..... **We pray to the Lord.**

For all Elect and Candidates preparing for the Sacraments of Easter, that through the Holy Spirit, they may be guided by word and example to walk in the light of Christ Jesus .....  
**We pray to the Lord.**

For those who suffer injustice and poverty through hunger, that through Project Compassion we may learn to share from our plenty so that there is enough for all. . . . **We pray to the Lord.**

We pray for all who are not well, that our love and prayers might be a source of strength and healing.....**We pray to the Lord.**

For all who have died including Stella O'Brien and Colleen Quinn and those whose anniversaries are occurring at this time. May they enjoy Eternal Light and rest in peace.....**We pray to the Lord.**

**Celebrant:** Holy God and Father, we thank you for the love and light you have given us in Jesus your Son. It is in His name that we make our prayer to you - through Jesus who is Lord for ever and ever.

**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.

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

Stella O'Brien, Colleen Mary Quinn

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

Milagros Agbada, Kevin Bourke Grahame Brunner, Billy Lucas, Joseph McDonnell, Roy Rampling,  
Les Sullivan, Bill Tobin (Gosford), John Bede Wynne

***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, Judy Mary Carmody, Olga Charlton,  
Brendan Cleaveland, 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***

Orlando Stefan Arizabal, Laylah Karina-Jayne Ireland, Amarnii Therese-Diana Ireland,  
Ryder Mark Ireland, Blaze Theo Maddox, Louie, Jon O'Connor, Haze Alexander Penny, Olive Lea Penny

***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

**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**

Please take home a Project Compassion box or a 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**. You can also donate by visiting [caritas.org.au/projectcompassion](http://caritas.org.au/projectcompassion) or by calling 1800 024 413.

**LEGION OF MARY ANNUAL ACIES** St Joseph's East Maitland, Sunday 24th March 2024, 2pm followed by Afternoon Tea in the Therry Centre.

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 EAST**  
Closed this weekend.

**Regional Anointing Mass**, St Paul's Rutherford this Friday 15th March at 10am. All welcome.

Please note - there will be no 7am Mass at East Maitland on this day.

**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 0449656406

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

**Chrism Mass** Each year during Holy Week all the faithful of the Church of Maitland-Newcastle are invited to gather with Bishop Michael Kennedy for the Chrism Mass. Join us on Tuesday 26/3/24, 7pm, Sacred Heart Cathedral, Newcastle West There will be no Mass or Youth Group on the 26/3/24.

**Kindergarten Welcome Mass** on Sunday 17/3 6pm, at St Joseph's East Maitland.

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.

**ACTiv8 Youth** are holding **re-enacted Stations of the Cross** on Good Friday at 10am. We are seeking youth to take part in the re-enactment. To take part email your details asap to [rebecca.piefke@mn.catholic.org.au](mailto:rebecca.piefke@mn.catholic.org.au)

**2nd Rite of Reconciliation will be at 6.00pm**

✠ St Paul's Rutherford - Wednesday 13th March  
✠ Our Lady of Lourdes Beresfield - Thursday 14th March  
✠ St Paul's Rutherford (Campbell's Hill community)  
Wednesday 20th March.

✠ St Joseph's East Maitland 21st March

These are our Reconciliations for Easter AND the children going through the Sacraments of Initiation.

**Wednesday Largs Mass 13th and 20th March** will be liturgies as our clergy are required to attend the Reconciliations at Rutherford.

**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!

**SAFEGUARDING** A letter has been sent to all the parishioners in our region from Fr George thanking us for the hard work undertaken to enable our parishes to reached our goal in passing the Audit. The letter will be sent via email through our bulletin distribution list and copies are available at the church. Next week the Safeguarding Promotors and members of the Safeguarding Team will meet with Dr David Treanor, who is the senior auditor from ACSL, to receive our regional audit report.

**Sacred Heart Market Day** - At St. Johns Hall Maitland during the Steamfest weekend on April 13th & 14th, from 10 am to 4:30 pm. A variety of stalls offering handmade items and pre-loved goods and delicious refreshments. Don't miss out on the opportunity to uncover treasures and unique finds! To apply for a space to sell your goods or for information about dropping goods off to sell please email [stevenbcampbell@yahoo.com.au](mailto:stevenbcampbell@yahoo.com.au)

## WEEKDAY MASS ROSTER

### Tues 12th March

5.30pm Mass, St Joseph's, East Maitland

### Wed 13th March

7.00pm Liturgy, Holy Family, Largs

### Thurs 14th March

7.00am Mass, St Joseph's, East Maitland

6.00pm Syro-Malabar Mass, Immaculate Conception, Morpeth

### Fri 15th March

10.00am Anointing Mass, St Paul's Rutherford

### Sat 16th March

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

### Sun 17th March

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

## PRIVATE PRAYER / ADORATION

### Mon 11th March

9.30am-10.30am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

### Tues 12th March

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

### Wed 13th March

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

### Thurs 14th March

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

### Fri 15th March

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

See front of bulletin for weekend Mass times