



THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT YEAR B

Year A Readings

SUNDAY 3RD MARCH 2024

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.

First Reading Exodus 17:1-7

A reading from the book of Exodus

He showed him water, that the people might drink.

The whole community of the sons of Israel moved from their camp in the desert of Zin at the Lord's command, to travel the further stages; and they pitched camp at Rephidim where there was no water for the people to drink. So they grumbled against Moses. 'Give us water to drink' they said. Moses answered them. 'Why do you grumble against me? Why do you put the Lord to the test?' But tormented by thirst, the people complained against Moses. 'Why did you bring us out of Egypt?' they said. 'Was it so that I should die of thirst, my children too, and my cattle?' Moses appealed to the Lord. 'How am I to deal with this people?' he said. 'A little more and they will stone me!' The Lord said to Moses, 'Take with you some of the elders of Israel and move on to the forefront of the people; take in your hand the staff with which you struck the river, and go. I shall be standing before you there on the rock, at Horeb. You must strike the rock, and water will flow from it for the people to drink.' This is what Moses did, in the sight of the elders of Israel. The place was named Massah and Meribah because of the grumbling of the sons of Israel and because they put the Lord to the test by saying, 'Is the Lord with us, or not?'

The Word of the Lord
Thanks be to God

Responsorial Psalm

If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts.

Come, ring out our joy to the Lord; hail the rock who saves us.

Let us come before him, giving thanks, with songs let us hail the Lord. (R.)

Come in; let us bow and bend low; let us kneel before the God who made us for he is our God and we the people who belong to his pasture, the flock that is led by his hand. (R.)

O that today you would listen to his voice! 'Harden not your hearts as at Meribah, as on that day at Massah in the desert when your fathers put me to the test; when they tried me, though they saw my work.' (R.)

Second Reading Romans 5:1-2. 5-8

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

The love of God has been poured into our hearts by the Holy Spirit which has been given us.

Through our Lord Jesus Christ, by faith we are judged righteous and at peace

with God, since it is by faith and through Jesus that we have entered this state of grace in which we can boast about looking forward to God's glory. This hope is not deceptive, because the love of God has been poured into our hearts by the Holy Spirit which has been given us. We were still helpless when at his appointed moment Christ died for sinful men. It is not easy to die even for a good man – though of course for someone really worthy, a man might be prepared to die – but what proves that God loves us is that Christ died for us while we were still sinners.

The Word of the Lord
Thanks be to God

Gospel Acclamation

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!

Lord, you are truly the Saviour of the world; give me living water, that I may never thirst again.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!

Gospel John 4:5-42

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

The water that I shall give will turn into a spring of eternal life.

Jesus came to the Samaritan town called Sychar, near the land that Jacob gave to his son Joseph. Jacob's well is there and Jesus, tired by the journey, sat straight down by the well. It was about the sixth hour. When a Samaritan woman came to draw water, Jesus said to her, 'Give me a drink.' His disciples had gone into the town to buy food. The Samaritan woman said to him, 'What? You are a Jew and you ask me, a Samaritan, for a drink?' – Jews, in fact, do not associate with Samaritans. Jesus replied:

'If you only knew what God is offering and who it is that is saying to you:

Give me a drink,

you would have been the one to ask, and he would have given you living water.'

'You have no bucket, sir,' she answered 'and the well is deep: how could you get this living water? Are you a greater man than our father Jacob who gave us this well and drank from it himself with his sons and his cattle?' Jesus replied:

'Whoever drinks this water

will get thirsty again:

but anyone who drinks the water that I shall give

will never be thirsty again:

the water that I shall give

will turn into a spring inside him, welling up to eternal life.'

Sir,' said the woman, 'give me some of that water, so that I may never get thirsty and never have to come here again to draw water.' 'Go and call your husband' said Jesus to her 'and come back here.' The woman answered, 'I have no husband.' He said to her, 'You are right to say, "I have no husband"; for although you have had five, the one you have now is not your husband. You spoke the truth there.' 'I see you are a prophet, sir' said the woman. 'Our fathers worshipped on this mountain, while you say that Jerusalem is the place where one ought to worship.' Jesus said:

'Believe me, woman, the hour is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. You worship what you do not know; we worship what we do know; for salvation comes from the Jews. But the hour will come – in fact it is here already – when true worshippers will worship the Father in spirit and truth: that is the kind of worshipper the Father wants. God is spirit, and those who worship must worship in spirit and truth.'

The woman said to him, 'I know that Messiah – that is, Christ – is coming; and when he comes he will tell us everything.' 'I who am speaking to you,' said Jesus 'I am he.'

At this point his disciples returned, and were surprised to find him speaking to a woman, though none of them asked, 'What do you want from her?' or, 'Why are you talking to her?' The woman put down her water jar and hurried back to the town to tell the people, Come and see a man who has told me everything I ever did; I wonder if he is the Christ?'

' This brought people out of the town and they started walking towards him.

Meanwhile, the disciples were urging him, 'Rabbi, do have something to eat;' but he said, 'I have food to eat that you do not know about.' So the disciples asked one another, 'Has someone been bringing him food?' But Jesus said:

'My food

is to do the will of the one who sent me, and to complete his work.

Have you not got a saying:

Four months and then the harvest?

Well, I tell you:

Look around you, look at the fields;

already they are white, ready for harvest!

Already the reaper is being paid his wages,

already he is bringing in the grain for eternal life,

and thus sower and reaper rejoice together.

For here the proverb holds good:

one sows, another reaps;

I sent you to reap

a harvest you had not worked for.

Others worked for it;

and you have come into the rewards of their trouble.'

Many Samaritans of that town had believed in him on the strength of the woman's testimony when she said, 'He told me all I have ever done', so, when the Samaritans came up to him, they begged him to stay with them. He stayed for two days, and when he spoke to them many more came to believe; and they said to the woman, 'Now we no longer believe because of what you told us; we have heard him ourselves and we know that he really is the saviour of the world.'

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: God gives us the living water, our true salvation. Let us pray to the Father for all who thirst for His divine life.

Prayer leader:

We pray for our Church, especially the Holy Father in Rome, that the Holy Spirit directs our leaders to proclaim to a world in need of the living waters of the Gospel. . . . Let us pray to the Lord. . . **Lord hear us.**

We pray for those who thirst for peace and reconciliation in our world, that the Spirit may guide them in their untiring quest. . . . Let us pray to the Lord. . . **Lord hear us.**

We pray that men of our Diocese heed the call to the priesthood and be filled with the fire of your divine love and be the voice of the Good Shepherd to the scattered sheep of the flock. . . . Let us pray to the Lord. . . **Lord hear us.**

We pray for the people in the RCIA program who are preparing to join our Catholic Communities over this Easter period, may they find the presence of Jesus in their hearts and minds as they move forward in their search for God . . . Let us pray to the Lord. . . **Lord hear us.**

For the children preparing for the Sacraments of Initiation that through their parents and guardians they become to know the true love of Jesus and invite Him into their lives. . . . Let us pray to the Lord. . . **Lord hear us.**

For those who are weakened in mind or body by ill health, may they experience the healing love and compassion of the Saviour. . . Let us pray to the Lord. . . **Lord hear us.**

For those who have died recently including Marcia Callinan, David Richardson and those whose anniversaries occur at this time may they live for ever in the presence of the Lord of life. . . . Let us pray to the Lord. . . **Lord hear us.**

Celebrant: You pour out on us your Spirit, the living water that wells up into Eternal life. We thank you for your wondrous gift; in the same Spirit we make our prayers, through Christ 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.

We pray those who have died this week

Marcia Callinan, David Richardson

We remember those whose Anniversaries occur around this time including

John Betham (Senior), John Betham (Junior), Ina Blake, Terry Blake, Michael Carter, Les Carlyon, Carol Chaloner, Bob Dickson, Colin Farley, Jack Healey, Neil Petersen, Eva Randell, Gwendoline (Gwen) Richards, Noel Smith, Nick Sawyer, Peter Turnbull, Jan Stefen Orlowski, John Orlowski, Napoleon Velasquez

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, 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

Spencer James Bueno, Nixon Sydney Everett, Colby John Kelly, Sam Neil Kelly, Lincoln Richard Wells

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

We welcome the children and their families who are preparing for the Sacraments of Initiation for the Presentation of the Creed this weekend.



Not having access to a reliable source of clean water was very difficult for Leaia and her family. But with the support of Caritas Australia, a water tank was installed at their home,

improving their health and living conditions.

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



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.

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 invites the kindergarten families in our region to join us for a special Kindergarten Welcome Mass on **Sunday, March 17th, 6pm, at St Joseph's East Maitland**.

LEGION OF MARY ANNUAL ACIES

Location: St Joseph's East Maitland

Date: Sunday 24th March 2024 Time: 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

PIETY STALL AT ST. JOSEPH'S CHURCH EAST

Open this weekend. There is an assortment of Bibles and Childrens Books available.

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.

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

STATIONS OF CROSS - Friday's during Lent

6pm. Our Lady of Lourdes Church, Beresfield.

7pm St Joseph's Church, East Maitland.

Introducing GenZ MuZos!

Are you a singer, guitarist, musician, reader, altar server, or just eager to lend a helping hand? Join our new GenZ MuZos group and be part of the music ministry for the 6pm Sunday Night Mass on the 2nd Sunday of the month. **Next Date Sunday 10th March**. Practice and preparation sessions Tuesdays during the 5:30pm Youth Mass at St. Joseph's. We welcome your ideas, skills, and enthusiasm to enrich our worship experience. For more information, contact: Bec 0422 500 429 or Sue at 0414 890 813

Sacred Heart Market Day - 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, please email stevenbcampbell@yahoo.com.au

East Maitland CWL next meeting will be held on the 7th March at the Therry Centre 11am - 1.30pm

WEEKDAY MASS ROSTER

Tues 5th March

5.30pm Mass, St Joseph's, East Maitland

Wed 6th March

7.00pm Mass, Holy Family, Largs

Thurs 7th March (Collect of Sts Perpetua and Felicity, martyrs)

7.00am Mass, St Joseph's, East Maitland

6.00pm Syro-Malabar Mass, Immaculate Conception, Morpeth

Fri 8th March (Collect of St John of God, religious)

7.00am Mass, St Joseph's, East Maitland

Sat 9th March (Collect of Frances of Rome, religious)

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

Sun 10th March

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

PRIVATE PRAYER / ADORATION

Mon 4th March

9.30am-10.30am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

Tues 5th March

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

Wed 6th March

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

Thurs 7th 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 8th March

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

See front of bulletin for weekend Mass times