



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

#### 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.



## The ASCENSION of the LORD

YEAR B

Sunday 12th May 2024

### Entrance Antiphon

Men of Galilee, why gaze in wonder at the heavens?

This Jesus whom you saw ascending into heaven will return as you saw him go, alleluia.

### LITURGY OF THE WORD

#### First Reading Acts of the Apostles 1:1-11

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

*Why are you standing here looking into the sky? Jesus has been taken into heaven.*

In my earlier work, Theophilus, I dealt with everything Jesus had done and taught from the beginning until the day he gave his instructions to the apostles he had chosen through the Holy Spirit, and was taken up to heaven. He had shown himself alive to them after his Passion by many demonstrations: for forty days he had continued to appear to them and tell them about the kingdom of God. When he had been at table with them, he had told them not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait there for what the Father had promised. 'It is,' he had said, 'what you have heard me speak about: John baptised with water but you, not many days from now, will be baptised with the Holy Spirit.'

Now having met together, they asked him, 'Lord, has the time come? Are you going to restore the kingdom to Israel?' He replied, 'It is not for you to know times or dates that the Father has decided by his own authority, but you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you, and then you will be my witnesses not only in Jerusalem but throughout Judaea and Samaria, and indeed to the ends of the earth.'

As he said this he was lifted up while they looked on, and a cloud took him from their sight. They were still staring into the sky when suddenly two men in white were standing near them and they said, 'Why are you men from Galilee standing here looking into the sky Jesus who has been taken up from you into heaven, this same Jesus will come back in the same way as you have seen him go there.'

### The Word of the Lord

#### Thanks be to God

**Responsorial Psalm Ps 46:2-3. 6-9. R. v.6**  
**God mounts his throne to shouts of joy: a blare of trumpets for the Lord.**

All peoples, clap your hands,  
cry to God with shouts of joy!

For the Lord, the Most High, we must fear, great king over all the earth. (R.)

God goes up with shouts of joy;  
the Lord goes up with trumpet blast.

Sing praise for God, sing praise,  
sing praise to our king, sing praise. (R.)

God is king of all the earth. Sing praise with all your skill. God is king over the nations; God reigns on his holy throne. (R.)

#### Second Reading Ephesians 1:17-23

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Ephesians

*He made Jesus to sit at his right hand in heaven.*

May the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, give you a spirit of wisdom and perception of what is revealed, to bring you to full knowledge of him. May he enlighten the eyes of your mind so that you can see what hope his call holds for you, what rich glories he has promised the saints will inherit and how infinitely great is the power that he has exercised for us believers. This you can tell from the strength of his power at work in Christ, when he used it to raise him from the dead and to make him sit at his right hand, in heaven, far above every Sovereignty, Authority, Power, or Domination, or any other name that can be named, not only in this age, but also in the age to come. He has put all things under his feet, and made him, as the ruler of everything, the head of the Church; which is his body, the fullness of him who fills the whole creation.

### The Word of the Lord

#### Thanks be to God

**Gospel Acclamation Matthew 28:19. 20**

**Alleluia, alleluia!** Go and teach all people my gospel. I am with you always, until the end of the world. **Alleluia!**

**Gospel Mark 16:15-20**

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark

*The Lord Jesus was taken into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God.*

Jesus showed himself to the Eleven and said to them, 'Go out to the whole world; proclaim the Good News to all creation. He who believes and is baptised is saved; he who does not believe will be condemned. These are the signs that will be associated with believers: in my name they will cast out devils; they will pick up snakes in their hands, and be unharmed should they drink deadly poison; they will lay their hands on the sick, who will recover.' And so the Lord Jesus, after he had spoken to them, was taken up into heaven: there at the right hand of God he took his place, while they, going out, preached everywhere, the Lord working with them and confirming the word by the signs that accompanied it.

### The Gospel of the Lord

#### Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ

## REFLECTION by Nick Brodie

Pope Francis encourages us to contemplate two aspects of the Ascension. 'On the one hand it directs our gaze towards heaven,' he says. 'On the other, it reminds us of the mission of the Church.'

The Pope points out that these two aspects are interconnected. In this feast we do not remember Jesus' bodily departure so much as celebrate his continuing presence in the world through the Christian community.

The Pope suggests that 'the Ascension exhorts us to lift our gaze toward heaven, in order to return it immediately to the earth, to implement the tasks that the Risen Lord entrusts to us.' As today's Gospel declares, Jesus is in heaven. Yet, by 'working with' his disciples, he is also still present in the world.

In a particular way in his encyclical *Laudato Si'* Pope Francis draws out the importance for Christians of proclaiming 'the Good News to all creation'. Picking up scriptural teaching, he highlights how 'all creation is bound up with the mystery of Christ' and reminds us that the Eucharist should motivate us 'to be stewards of all creation.'

People of the Ascension, therefore, do not just tell other people about Jesus. Rather, People of the Ascension, as the Pope puts it, 'seek Christ along the paths of our time'. We are called to serve the poor and the needy and the world in which they live. We are called to become 'visible signs of hope' for the whole of creation.

© 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, (*all bow*)  
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:** We celebrate the return of Jesus to his Father in heaven on this day of the Ascension. Let us place our prayer before our ascended Lord with confidence.

### Prayer leader:

For our Church leaders, especially Pope Francis, our Bishops and Priests that they will always proclaim the Gospel with power, and strengthen the mission of the Church in the world.

We pray. . . **Loving Lord, hear our prayer.**

For the leaders of our Nation that they will be guided by the Holy Spirit to work for peace and justice in this time of hardship that many are facing with the cost of living causing stress for many families.

We pray. . . **Loving Lord, hear our prayer.**

On this Mother's Day, we ask the Blessed Mother of Jesus to walk beside all mothers and those who are the mother figure in our families, giving them the wisdom to keep Jesus alive in their children's hearts with her special Mother's love. . . We pray. . . **Loving Lord, hear our prayer.**

For our Country, Australia, that our efforts for this Great South Land of the Holy Spirit will make this a nation that seeks for the peace and Christian unity that the world by itself cannot give.

We pray. . . **Loving Lord, hear our prayer.**

For those who are not able to attend Eucharist with us: we pray that they will feel the presence of Jesus in their hearts and soon join us in this celebration. . . We pray. . . **Loving Lord, hear our prayer.**

May those who have left this earth recently especially Aileen Buranello, Simon Lawler and all our friends and family who have gone before us, now meet our Loving Lord face to face and enjoy the love of His presence. . . . We pray. . . . **Loving Lord, hear our prayer.**

**Celebrant:** Almighty God You sent your only Son into our world to live and die for our Salvation and return to You. When our time comes to leave this world, may we go with Christ to our Father in heaven.

**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** *Matthew 28:20*

Behold, I am with you always, even to the end of the age, alleluia.

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

Aileen Buranello, Simon Lawler

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

Leslie Gunasekara, Anne Elizabeth Smith (Guy), Mary Helen Kealy, Darcy Martin, Roma Sharkey, Chris Small, Verney Small, Myrell Mary Suters, Jenny Szmyniec, Kathryn Wholert

***We pray for those who are sick at this time***

Mari Shivanthi Abeykeon, Angeles Adapon, Bonifacio Adapon, Teresa Almanza, Ian-Christopher Bajo, Lorraine Bartlett, Patrick Brennan, Judy Mary Carmody, Olga Charlton, Brendan Cleaveland, Timothy Clifton, Luke Crotty, Oneli Disaaynayake, Alfredo Doctor, James Edwards, 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, Judy Massey, Marielle Munoz, Carlo Panlilio, Collin Perera, Jen Phillips, Anthony Y Poblador (USA), Mary Pullin, Rohini Rajakaruna, Olga Roberts, Olga Rusak, Biyatrise Samaratunga, Steven Small, Anne Standing, Bill Temperley, Nilda Walker, Gayle Williams, John Williams, Gary Wills, Maureen Wilson, Jo Winkler

***We pray for those who will be Baptised***

Dane William Brown, Kade Michael Brown, Rory Edward Brown, Elsie Sydney Anne Sheehan, Helena Louise Margaret Thompson, Thea Stella Rose Thompson

***We pray for the RCIA Neophytes***

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

***Neophyte***

Melinda Walls

***We pray for those who will be Married***

Joseph Cabusas & Rosemarie Panes

**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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**MASS COUNTS during May** The most recent Mass counts were undertaken in 2021 and the Council of Priests determined that these figures were significantly affected by COVID and do not accurately reflect current reality. Bishop Michael has requested that a current Mass count take place during the month of May throughout the Diocese. The count will take place for four consecutive weekends in May. This includes the Vigil Masses as well as Sunday Masses BUT not the Saturday morning Mass. It will take place around the time of Announcements. We thank you for participating in this very important gathering of information.

**Regional Anointing Mass**  
St Joseph's East Maitland  
this Friday **17th March** at 10am.  
All welcome

**EUCCHARISTIC AND MARIAN HOLY HOUR**  
Monday 13th May 2024 7pm-8pm

St Joseph's East Maitland

Feast of Our Lady of Fatima.

**Rosary, Prayers of Intercession, Consecration  
Prayer to Our Lady of Fatima, Benediction.**  
Join us in prayer as we intercede for our world,  
especially those countries and regions at war.

**NOTE CHANGE OF TIME:** The Maitland Parish Community invite all people to come and join us in **praying the Rosary to Our Blessed Mother on Monday nights, 5.00pm at St Paul's Church, Rutherford.**

The Council for Women has relaunched the Magdalene Awards in 2024, to recognise and celebrate women who embody the spirit of Mary Magdalene within the Diocese of Maitland – Newcastle. **For those interested in participating or nominating someone nominations open on Monday 8 April and close on Monday 3 June.**

[mn.catholic.org.au/church-mission/mission-and-outreach/council-for-women/magdalene-award-2024/](http://mn.catholic.org.au/church-mission/mission-and-outreach/council-for-women/magdalene-award-2024/) For inquiries or further information, contact

Kate Crncevic ([kate.crncevic@mn.catholic.org.au](mailto:kate.crncevic@mn.catholic.org.au)), or Council for Women Chair, Helene O'Neill ([helene.oneill@mn.catholic.org.au](mailto:helene.oneill@mn.catholic.org.au))

## WEEKDAY MASS ROSTER

**Mon 13th** (*Our Lady of Fatima*)

**Tues 14th May** (*St Matthias, apostle*)

**5.30pm** Mass, St Joseph's, East Maitland

**Wed 15th May**

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

**Thurs 16th May**

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

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

**Fri 17th May**

**10.00am** Anointing Mass, St Joseph's East Maitland

**Sat 18th May** (*St John I, pope, martyr*)

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

**Sun 19th May**

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

God, our Mother and our Father  
Look on favour all those we call 'mother'  
Bless them and keep them as they bless and keep us.  
Grant that we their sons and daughters honour  
them always with a spirit of profound respect.  
We make this prayer through Mary, who interceded for us. Amen.  
Happy Mothers Day

**CWL EAST MAITLAND** Invite everyone to morning tea and a talk by Sr Carmel Hanson rsj Co-Ordinator of the House of Hospitality and Newcastle Woman of the year. On Saturday 18th May 2024, 9.30am at the Corcoran Centre, Morpeth. RSVP - 11th May Donation \$10. and all proceeds to House of Hospitality: Contact: Colleen 0400 383 950 or Anne 0413489 129. (If no answer please leave a message or text)

**Our Lady of Lourdes Parish Community** pray the Rosary together each Saturday night before Mass, commencing at 5.30pm. Everyone is warmly invited to join us.

**Chapel Jazz** showcasing school bands spectacular, Sunday 19th May, 11.00am - 4.00pm in the grounds of Immaculate Conception church, Morpeth. All Welcome. See posters in your church porches—Enquiries contact 0414254230.

**ACTiv8 Youth Group** sessions run weekly during the school term at the following locations:

- Tuesdays: St Joseph's, East Maitland, from 5pm to 7pm
- Wednesdays: Holy Family Church Hall, Largs, from 5.30pm to 7pm. For more information or to volunteer please contact [rebecca.piefke@mn.catholic.org.au](mailto:rebecca.piefke@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 0449656406

## PIETY STALL AT ST. JOSEPH'S CHURCH EAST MAITLAND

Great selection of Bibles, children's books, all new in and a variety of First Communion/Confirmation gifts etc.

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)

**PROJECT COMPASSION** donations for this years Project Compassion will need to be at the parish office by Tuesday 14th May as parishes are required to provide all donations to Caritas Australia by the end of May.

## PRIVATE PRAYER / ADORATION

**Mon 13th May**

**9.30am-10.30am** Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, St Joseph's, East Maitland  
**7.00pm-8.00pm** Eucharistic and Marian Holy Hour (Feast of Our Lady of Fatima) St Joseph's, East Maitland

**Tues 14th May**

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

**Wed 15th May**

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

**Thurs 16th May**

**9.30-10.30am** Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament St Joseph's East Maitland  
**7.00pm** Marian Movement of Priests Rosary 2 Erin Close Ashtonfield

**Fri 17th May**

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