



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 Anthead

Asst Priests: Fr Paul Chackanikunnel

Fr Priyantha Fernando

Presbytery 4934 5783

Urgent Priest on Duty 0428 017 273

#### Support Clergy

Fr Arthur Cook

#### Regional Office

Louise Gilchrist, Janine Sidoti,

Sandra Buck, Rebecca Piefke

#### ACTv8 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, Gweagui,  
Darkinjung, Biripi and Awabakal  
peoples. We respectfully acknowledge  
their Elders, celebrate their continuing  
culture and the living memory of their  
ancestors.

### Entrance Antiphon

Cf Psalm 85:3,5

Have mercy on me, O Lord, for I cry to  
you all the day long.

O Lord, you are good and forgiving, full  
of mercy to all who call to you.

### LITURGY OF THE WORD

#### First Reading

Deuteronomy 4:1-2, 6-8

A reading from the book of  
Deuteronomy

*You may add nothing to the word which I  
speak to you – keep the commands of the  
Lord.*

Moses said to the people: 'Now, Israel,  
take notice of the laws and customs that  
I teach you today, and observe them,  
that you may have life and may enter  
and take possession of the land that the  
Lord the God of your fathers is giving  
you. You must add nothing to what I  
command you, and take nothing from it,  
but keep the commandments of the Lord  
your God just as I lay them down for you.  
Keep them, observe them, and they will  
demonstrate to the peoples your wisdom  
and understanding. When they come to  
know of all these laws they will exclaim,  
"No other people is as wise and prudent  
as this great nation." And indeed, what  
great nation is there that has its gods so  
near as the Lord our God is to us  
whenever we call to him? And what great  
nation is there that has laws and  
customs to match this whole Law that I  
put before you today?'

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

#### Responsorial Psalm

Ps 14:2-5. R. v.1

**(R.) The just will live in the  
presence of the Lord.**

Lord, who shall dwell on your holy  
mountain? He who walks without fault;  
he who acts with justice and speaks the  
truth from his heart. (R.)

He who does no wrong to his brother,  
who casts no slur on his neighbour,  
who holds the godless in disdain,  
but honours those who fear the Lord.  
(R.)

He who keeps his pledge, come what  
may; who takes no interest on a loan  
and accepts no bribes against the  
innocent. Such a man will stand firm for  
ever. (R.)

#### Second Reading

James 1:17-18, 21-22, 27

A reading from the letter of St James

*Be doers of the word.*

It is all that is good, everything that is  
perfect, which is given us from above; it  
comes down from the Father of all light;  
with him there is no such thing as  
alteration, no shadow of a change.

By his own choice he made us his  
children by the message of the truth so  
that we should be a sort of first-fruits of  
all that he had created.

Accept and submit to the word which has  
been planted in you and can save your  
souls. But you must do what the word  
tells you, and not just listen to it and  
deceive yourselves. Pure, unspoiled  
religion, in the eyes of God our Father is  
this: coming to the help of orphans and  
widows when they need it, and keeping  
oneself uncontaminated by the world.

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

#### Gospel Acclamation

**Alleluia, alleluia!** The Father gave us  
birth by his message of truth,  
that we might be as the first fruits of his  
creation. **Alleluia!**

#### Gospel

Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

A reading from the holy Gospel  
according to Mark

*You forget the commandments of God and  
hold on to human tradition.*

The Pharisees and some of the scribes  
who had come from Jerusalem gathered  
round Jesus, and they noticed that some  
of his disciples were eating with unclean  
hands, that is, without washing them. For  
the Pharisees, and the Jews in general,  
follow the tradition of the elders and  
never eat without washing their arms as  
far as the elbow; and on returning from  
the market place they never eat without  
first sprinkling themselves. There are  
also many other observances which  
have been handed down to them  
concerning the washing of cups and pots  
and bronze dishes. So these Pharisees  
and scribes asked him, 'Why do your  
disciples not respect the tradition of the  
elders but eat their food with unclean  
hands?' He answered, 'It was of you  
hypocrites that Isaiah so rightly  
prophesied in this passage of scripture:  
This people honours me only with  
lip-service, while their hearts are far from  
me. The worship they offer me is  
worthless, the doctrines they teach are  
only human regulations. You put aside  
the commandment of God to cling to  
human traditions.' He called the people  
to him again and said, 'Listen to me, all  
of you, and understand. Nothing that  
goes into a man from outside can make  
him unclean; it is the things that come  
out of a man that make him unclean. For  
it is from within, from men's hearts, that  
evil intentions emerge: fornication, theft,  
murder, adultery, avarice, malice, deceit,  
indecent, envy, slander, pride, folly. All  
these evil things come from within and  
make a man unclean.'

**The Gospel of the Lord  
Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ**

## REFLECTION by Dianne Bergant CSA

The overarching theme of the readings for this Sunday is 'words spoken in truth'. On one level, the laws are the words of the covenant. They are part of the contract that was drawn up between God and the people. They are words of truth, because they are the reliable revelation of God and because they genuinely reflect righteous living.

The biblical covenant laws are truly humane. Obedience to the words of the covenant leads to life and blessings, while disobedience results in the opposite.

Our religious customs always carry some profound religious meaning, but we may not know or care what it is – and yet we perform them. Do people know or care why we stand or sit or kneel during liturgy? Do people have a 'church' wedding because it is a religious event, or because 'that's the way we have always done it'? Religious practices do not always flow from a deep religious conviction. But once we realise our need for God, these practices become genuine expressions of religious sentiment.

When the word of God has taken root in us, everything becomes a religious practice. This word can come to us through the teachings of our faith, through the example of good people around us, through the wonder and mystery of creation. When it does take hold of us, our inner eye is opened, our hearts are softened, and we turn instinctively to God like a flower turns to the sun. When we are brought to birth in this way, covenant law becomes sacred, religious practices are cherished, and we are filled with the power that saves.

© 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, (*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:** Brothers and sisters, with confidence in God's love and mercy let us intercede for the world.

### Pray leader:

We pray for all who minister the Eucharist to us, our Pope, Bishops and Priests: giving thanks for their commitment and sacrifice they practice in their daily lives, as they teach and celebrate the Eucharist, being a true Shepherd to the flock of the Lords Vineyard.

We pray to the Lord. . . . **Hear our prayer.**

For our national leaders, that the Spirit lead all to work for Peace, Justice and Reconciliation between all Australians.

We pray to the Lord. . . . **Hear our prayer.**

That, on this World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation, we will heed the call of Pope Francis to live in hope, and act with creation.

We pray to the Lord. . . . **Hear our prayer.**

We pray for all Fathers on this 'Father's day', especially those who have young families, may they teach their children the true way of Jesus and be His presence in the home.

We pray to the Lord. . . . **Hear our prayer.**

Guide our young people who are preparing to receive Your Body for the first time, place a seed of love in their hearts so they will know and love You always.

We pray to the Lord. . . . **Hear our prayer.**

We pray for our RCIA Catechumens and Candidates, past and present, that they hear the words of God in their hearts as they continue on their journey and trust in His love for all.

We pray to the Lord. . . **Hear our prayer.**

We pray for all fathers who have left this life ahead of us, and for those of our community who have died recently, especially Jonathon Kostyk, Jean Passfield and Analiza Rayos. Because they believed in the real presence of Jesus in the Eucharist, may they be rewarded now by His glorious presence in Eternity.

We pray to the Lord. . . .**Hear our prayer.**

**Celebrant:** God of justice and mercy, your law guides our hearts in the path of holiness. Hear our prayers and may our words be matched by our loving deeds. We make this prayer in Jesus' name.

**Communion Antiphon** Psalm 30:20

How great is the goodness, Lord, that you keep for those who fear you.

**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***

Jonathon Kostyk, Jean Passfield, Analiza Rayos

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

Richard Breiner, John Bridger, Hazel Bridger, Ted Burgess, Eileen Palmer, Bernard Vaughan Campbell, Brett Christiansen, Tegan Christiansen, Marion Crotty, Eileen Palmer, Veronica Sheeley, John Tobin, George and Myra Whiteley, Tony Wills

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

Dalisay Almanza, Teresa Almanza, Lorraine Bartlett, Ron Bartlett, Patrick Brennan, Chloe Judith Carmody, Judy Mary Carmody, Luke Crotty, Olga Charlton, Randy Janzen, Jolanta Jenkinson, Michael Lockyer, Brian Perrin, Jen Phillips, Jenny Ribeyro, Olga Rusak, Anne Standing, William (Bill) Temperley, Crystal Towers, Ruth Warner, John Williams, Maureen Wilson, Jo Winkler, Elfrieda Zimmerman  
*(If you would like your sick notice to be reinstated please email [chisholm@mn.catholic.org.au](mailto:chisholm@mn.catholic.org.au))*

**Blessing Prayer for Fathers**



Lord God, who is Father of all, send your blessing down on these men who are fathers.  
For those who in the night worry for their child, grant them your comfort.  
For those who in the day work and struggle to provide for their child, send them your strength.  
For those who mourn a child, hold them in your love.  
For those who play, laugh, sing and dance with their child, you share in their joy.  
Lord God, who is Father of all, walk with these fathers, in the light times and the dark.  
Bless them, and may they each be a living symbol of your fatherly love;  
a symbol to their children and all who they encounter.  
We make this prayer through Christ our Lord.  
Amen.

**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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Welcome to all those children who are receiving their First Holy Communion this weekend.

## Forming the Sacramental Life of the Church

Everyone is warmly invited to come together to renew our sacramental life as part of our preparation for and celebration of the Jubilee Year 2025. Our first step in formation will focus on Sacrament and Liturgy.



**Friday 6th September** 4.00pm - 6.30pm OR **Saturday 7th September** 9.30am - 12.00pm,  
The Library, ASC St Peter's Campus, 9 Free Church St Maitland. RSVP by Monday 2nd September via Phone 0249338918 or scan the QR code

### How would this help me with my ministry?

2024 is the Year of Prayer declared by Pope Francis as the preparation for next year's Jubilee. Jubilee is a time to step out of the busyness of life and take time for renewal. The Regional Leadership discerned that the best focus for our renewal would be sacrament and liturgy. In our formation journey we will be doing the work of Jubilee as we reflect together on our Catholic understanding and appreciation of the notion of sacrament and the nature of liturgy. This will be the essential foundation for further opportunities which focus on specific liturgical ministries where insights and questions can be shared and explored. If you are a member of any group within the Maitland region it would be of great benefit for you to attend. If you are a teacher within our Catholic School System, this formation could be included in your accreditation to work, teach and lead.

**Perpetual Day of Remembrance** September 15, promulgated as a 'Perpetual Day of Remembrance' in our diocese. On this Sunday the Diocese have set readings which will be different to the usual Sunday.

**The Parish office will be closed** on Tuesday 3/9/2024 till 2.30pm due to staff attending a training day.

Message of his Holiness Pope Francis for the world day of prayer for the care of creation

[Message of His Holiness Pope Francis for the World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation \[1st September 2024\] \(27 June 2024\) | Francis \(vatican.va\)](#)

Piety stall will be only open on Saturday evenings at St Joseph's East Maitland throughout September. Thank you.

## WEEKDAY MASS ROSTER

**Tues 3rd September** (*St Gregory the Great, pope, doctor*)

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

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

**Wed 4th September**

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

**Thurs 5th September**

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

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

**Fri 6th September** (*Spring Ember Day*)

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

**Sat 7th September**

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

**Sun 8th September**

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

**9.30am** Latin Mass - St John the Baptist Oratory  
(Cathedral St Maitland. Confessions from 8.45am)

## National Child Protection Week

National Child Protection Week invites all Australians to play their part to promote the safety and wellbeing of children and young people. National Child Protection Week (NCPW) will take place from 1-7 September in 2024. This year, the theme is: **'EVERY CONVERSATION MATTERS'**

We can all play a part by creating stronger, safer neighbourhoods. This can be achieved by talking to your neighbours, checking in with friends, being a good role model, supporting and being kind to parents rather than judging or being competitive, offering to assist where possible, and speaking up if you see something that is unsafe. It is important that we listen to, and value, what children have to say. Where possible, include their voices in decision-making and be advocates for their best interest. By speaking regularly with children about their personal safety and how they can protect themselves, as well as "tuning in" to their worries, children are more likely to trust us and feel comfortable to talk with us when something big is going on. Make your influence positive; start a conversation today with your colleagues and families about listening to and valuing the voice of children and young people. For more information and resources go to [officeofsafeguarding.org.au](http://officeofsafeguarding.org.au)



## National Child Protection Week Reminder

As we observe National Child Protection Week, it's a timely reminder for our Region to highlight important Matters.

**Volunteering with Children:** If you plan to work in a ministry involving contact with children, please contact the parish office to complete the necessary volunteer documentation.

**Working with Children Check:** To apply for or update your Working with Children Check number, follow the link provided.

<https://www.service.nsw.gov.au/transaction/apply-for-a-working-with-children-check>

Remember to inform the parish office once your check number is updated.

**Visitor Sign-In:** Ensure you sign in using the visitor registers when entering the church sacristies.

**Reporting Concerns:** If you have concerns about the safety of a child or a vulnerable person, please contact the Office of Safeguarding at 02 4979 1390.

**ACTiv8 Youth Group** during the school term at St Joseph's, East Maitland, from 5pm to 7pm and Wednesdays: Holy Family Church Hall, Largs, from 5.30pm to 7pm.

Contact [rebecca.piefke@mn.catholic.org.au](mailto:rebecca.piefke@mn.catholic.org.au)

## PRIVATE PRAYER / ADORATION / ROSARY/ BIBLE STUDY

**Mon 2nd September**

**9.30am-10.30am** Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament,  
St Joseph's, East Maitland  
**5.00pm** Rosary, St Paul's, Rutherford

**Tues 3rd September**

**9.30am-10.30am** Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament,  
St Joseph's, East Maitland **Funeral**  
**6.00pm** Bible Study for families, Prayer Room  
St Joseph's East Maitland

**Wed 4th September**

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

**Thurs 5th September**

**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 6th September**

**7.30am till 8.00am** Adoration, St Joseph's, EM  
**9.30am** Prayer of the Church,  
Our Lady of Lourdes, Beresfield

**Sat 7th September**

**5.30pm** Rosary, Our Lady of Lourdes, Beresfield