



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 Anhicad
Asst Priests: Fr Paul Chackanikunnel
Fr Priyantha Fernando
Presbytery 4934 5783
Urgent Priest on Duty 0428 017 273

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.

Entrance Antiphon

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I say, rejoice. Indeed, the Lord is near.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

First Reading Zep 3:14-18

A reading from the prophet Zephaniah

With gladness the Lord will rejoice over you.

Shout for joy, daughter of Zion,
Israel, shout aloud!

Rejoice, exult with all your heart,
daughter of Jerusalem!

The Lord has repealed your sentence; he has driven your enemies away.

The Lord, the king of Israel, is in your midst; you have no more evil to fear. When that day comes, word will come to Jerusalem: Zion, have no fear, do not let your hands fall limp.

The Lord your God is in your midst, a victorious warrior.

He will exult with joy over you, he will renew you by his love; he will dance with shouts of joy for you as on a day of festival.

The Word of the Lord
Thanks be to God

Responsorial Psalm Is 12:2-6 R. v.6

**Cry out with joy and gladness:
for among you is the great and
Holy One of Israel.**

Truly, God is my salvation, I trust, I shall not fear. For the Lord is my strength, my song, he became my saviour. With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation. (R.)

Give thanks to the Lord, give praise to his name! Make his mighty deeds known to the peoples! Declare the greatness of his name. (R.)

Sing a psalm to the Lord for he has done glorious deeds, make them known to all the earth! People of Zion, sing and shout for joy for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel. (R.)

Second Reading Phil 4:4-7

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Philippians

The Lord is near.

I want you to be happy, always happy in the Lord; I repeat, what I want is your happiness. Let your

tolerance be evident to everyone: the Lord is very near. There is no need to worry; but if there is anything you need, pray for it, asking God for it with prayer and thanksgiving, and that peace of God, which is so much greater than we can understand, will guard your hearts and your thoughts, in Christ Jesus.

The Word of the Lord
Thanks be to God

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

The Spirit of the Lord is upon me; he sent me to bring Good News to the poor. Alleluia!

Gospel Lk 3:10-18

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

What, then, must we do?

When all the people asked John, 'What must we do?' he answered, 'If anyone has two tunics he must share with the man who has none, and the one with something to eat must do the same.' There were tax collectors too who came for baptism, and these said to him, 'Master, what must we do?' He said to them, 'Exact no more than your rate.' Some soldiers asked him in their turn, 'What about us? What must we do?' He said to them, 'No intimidation! No extortion! Be content with your pay!'

A feeling of expectancy had grown among the people, who were beginning to think that John might be the Christ, so John declared before them all, 'I baptise you with water, but someone is coming, someone who is more powerful than I am, and I am not fit to undo the strap of his sandals; he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing-fan is in his hand to clear his threshing-floor and to gather the wheat into his barn; but the chaff he will burn in a fire that will never go out.' As well as this, there were many other things he said to exhort the people and to announce the Good News to them.

The Gospel of the Lord
Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ

The Apostles Creed

I believe in God,
the Father almighty,
Creator of heaven and earth,
and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
(*all bow*)
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died and was buried;
he descended into hell;
on the third day he rose again from the dead;

he ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of God the
Father almighty;
from there he will come to judge the living
and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and life everlasting. Amen.

UNIVERSAL PRAYER

Presider: St Paul tells us that the Lord is very near to us and loves us. To ask for all our needs, with prayer and thanksgiving, knowing that He wants us to be happy in His presence.

Prayer Leader:

For Pope Francis all Bishops and Priests: may they be men of Your divine love, filled with the voice of a Good Shepherd with great missionary zeal.

We pray. . . Lord hear our prayer

Jesus was named as the Prince of Peace. We pray for peace in the Middle East, who share the homeland of Jesus, where there is war.

We pray. . . Lord hear our prayer

We pray for this great land of the Southern Cross, that the Christ who came among his people at the first Christmas would be born anew in the hearts of all people.

We pray. . . Lord hear our prayer

We pray for the homeless and refugees who are seeking a place of peace and rest, that your presence will be felt among them giving them courage to continue in their journey in this life.

We pray. . . Lord hear our prayer

May the people in the RCIA group be given the grace and courage to say Yes to Your invitation Holy Lord, to believe in the love You have for them.

We pray. . . . Lord hear our prayer

We pray for those who are unable to celebrate this Eucharist with us this day due to ill health. May they feel the presence of our Loving Father in their times of trial.

We pray. . . Lord hear our prayer.

Christ came to live among us that we might share his divine life. We pray for all our people who have died, especially for those who have died during this week. May they know Jesus face to face.

We pray. . . . Lord hear our prayer.

Presider: We praise and thank You, Father, for sharing Your Son with us. We know through Him Your readiness to hear us. We ask for our needs in His name, Christ our Lord.

We pray those who have died this week

We remember those whose Anniversaries occur around this time including

Mary Gaska, Bernard Gurr, Vincent Gurr, Penny Heagney, Harry James Martin, Douglas Reid,
Dorothy Sawyer, Jill Smith

We pray for those who are sick at this time

Jan Armstrong, Dalisay Almanza, Teresa Almanza, Ian - Christopher Bajo, Lorraine Bartlett,
Ron Bartlett, Patrick Brennan, Chloe Judith Carmody, Judy Mary Carmody, Luke Crotty, Olga Charlton,
Dianne Fryer, Reg Glover, Randy Janzen, Jolanta Jenkinson, Karen Kenyon, Margaret King,
Michael Lockyer, Brian Perrin, Marie Petersen, Jen Phillips, Olga Rusak, Anne Standing,
William (Bill) Temperley, Crystal Towers, Arlo John Vandermeer, Rosalinda Vicente, 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)

We pray for those who will be baptised

Harper Mary Gately, Ethan Goodman Le Roux, Henry Clarence Le Roux, Mason Daniel Moylan,
Casey Glenn Murrell, Maxwell Larry Murrell, Oliver John Murrell, Charlie Grace Patchett,
Billy River Spiteri, Bonnie Susan Turner, Luke Stetson Watt

We pray for the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA)

Candidates and Catechumens

Cassandra Bendeich, Brett Blake, Natasha Clements, Nicola Gaffel, Kurt Hayes, Trevor Kerr,
Siu Ngatuvai, Saugat Pandeya, Natasha Potts, Ted Purdy, Zoe Sexton, Tyrone Smith,
Aminata C. Taylor, Daniel Taylor, Skye Thompson, Anne Watts, Renee Wilcher

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

 **Advent Reconciliation**

✠ 5.00pm Friday 20th December - St Joseph's East Maitland

 **Christmas Vigils Tuesday 24th December**

✠ 5.00pm St Joseph's, East Maitland
✠ 5.30pm St Bede's Catholic College Chisholm (24A Heritage Drive Chisholm)
✠ 6.00pm Our Lady of Lourdes, Beresfield
✠ 6.30pm Sacred Heart, Campbell's Hill

 **Midnight Mass Wednesday 25th December**

✠ 12.00am St Joseph's, East Maitland

 **Christmas Day Wednesday 25th December**

✠ 7.15am Immaculate Conception, Morpeth
✠ 8.00am St Paul's, Rutherford
✠ 8.00am Holy Family, Largs
✠ 8.30am St Joseph's, East Maitland
✠ 9.30am St Patrick, Lochinvar
✠ 9.30am St Columba's Paterson

This year, a Christmas Vigil will be held at St Bede's Catholic College, and we are seeking young people to participate in a **re-enactment of the Christmas story**. If your child is interested in taking part, please contact Bec Piefke at rebecca.piefke@mn.catholic.org.au or call 0422 500 429.

Parish Office Closure: The Parish office will be closed from 1:00 PM on Christmas Eve and will reopen to the public on January 7, 2025. For anointing of the sick, please contact 0428 017 273. If anyone passes away and you need to contact the funeral ministry, please call 0428 220 997.

Welcomers are needed to join the **Regional Baptism** rosters in 2025. The Baptisms are on Sundays at 11.30am at St Joseph's East Maitland and Sacred Heart Campbell's Hill. If you can assist once a month or even every six weeks please contact the parish office, 49338918, chisholm@mn.catholic.org.au.



An invitation is extended to all parishioners throughout the Region to contribute towards the **St Vincent de Paul Christmas Appeal**, which will be conducted this weekend. Envelopes are available in parish churches. People can also donate by calling 131812 or visiting vinnies.org.au.

If you would like an anniversary included in the bulletin on the weekend of **21/22, 28/29 December** or **4/5 January**, please send the name to the parish office by Wednesday 18th December.

Piety stall advent candles, nativity sets and figures, ornaments and books. At St Joseph's East Maitland after every weekend Mass. **NATIVITY SCENE** Raffle \$2 per ticket/6 for \$10 available at the Piety stall.

The Parish of East Maitland are seeking donations to purchase a **votive candle stand**. To contribute please contact the parish office.

Dear Parishioners.

On the Feast of All Saints, Bishop Michael Kennedy formally launched and blessed our revised Vision and Mission Statement. This Statement will guide, inform and inspire the College over the next five to ten years. On behalf of the students, parents and staff I would like to thank Fr George and the many parishioners who contributed to the development of this Vision and Mission Statement over the last two years. Thank you for your continued support of All Saints' College, Maitland. Brian Lacey College Principal. To view the statement follow the link

[Our Mission & Vision - All Saints College, Maitland](#)

Volunteers from St Joseph's and the Immaculate Conception are required for bag collection during 2025. The bag with the weekly bulletins and other correspondence is collected each Friday from the Parish office and dropped off at the relevant church. If you are able to assist once every month or even every five or six weeks please contact the parish office on 49338918 or chisholm@mn.catholic.org.au. The new roster will take affect from the 10th January so please contact the parish office as soon as possible to enable us to prepare and send out the roster before Christmas.

**General Instruction of the Roman Missal
Reverence to the Altar and Greeting of the Assembled People 50.** When the Entrance Chant is concluded, the Priest stands at the chair and, together with the whole gathering, signs himself with the Sign of the Cross. Then by means of the Greeting he signifies the presence of the Lord to the assembled community. By this greeting and the people's response, the mystery of the Church gathered together is made manifest. After the greeting of the people, the Priest, or the Deacon, or a lay minister may very briefly introduce the faithful to the Mass of the day.

Cf. John Paul II, Apostolic Letter, Dies Domini, 31 May 1998, no. 50: Acta Apostolicae Sedis 90 (1998), p. 745.

WEEKDAY MASS ROSTER

Tues 17th December

5.30pm Mass, St Joseph's, East Maitland
6.00pm Syro-Malabar Mass,
Immaculate Conception, Morpeth

Wed 18th December

7.00pm Mass, Holy Family, Largs

Thurs 19th December

7.00am Mass, St Joseph's, East Maitland
6.00pm Syro-Malabar Mass,
Immaculate Conception, Morpeth

Fri 20th December

7.00am Mass, St Joseph's East Maitland

Sat 21st December

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

Sun 22nd December (Fourth Sunday of Advent)

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)

PRIVATE PRAYER / ADORATION / ROSARY/ BIBLE STUDY

Mon 16th December

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

Tues 17th December

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

Wed 18th December

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

Thurs 19th December

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 **PH: 0449762976**

Fri 20th December

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

Sat 21st December

5.30pm Rosary, Our Lady of Lourdes , Beresfield

See front of bulletin for weekend Mass