



20th Sunday in ORDINARY TIME YEAR C **SUNDAY 17th AUGUST 2025**





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 **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 Paul Chackanikunnel Fr Priyantha Fernando, Fr Anil Kuchipudi 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

First Reading

Jeremiah 38:4-6. 8-10

A reading from the prophet Jeremiah You bore me to be a man of strife for the whole

The king's leading men spoke to the king. 'Let Jeremiah be put to death: he is unquestionably disheartening the remaining soldiers in the city, and all the people too, by talking like this. The fellow does not have the welfare of this people at heart so much as its ruin.' 'He is in your hands as you know,' King Zedekiah answered 'for the king is powerless against you.' So they took Jeremiah and threw him into the well of Prince Malchiah in the Court of the Guard, letting him down with ropes. There was no water in the well, only mud, and into the mud Jeremiah sank. Ebed-melech came out from the palace and spoke to the king. 'My lord king,' he said, 'these men have done a wicked thing by treating the prophet Jeremiah like this: they have thrown him into the well where he will die.' At this the king gave Ebed-melech the Cushite the following order: 'Take three men with you from here and pull the prophet Jeremiah out of the well before he dies.'

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 39:2-4. 18. R. v.14

(R.) Lord, come to my aid!

Second Reading

Hebrews 12:1-4

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews

Let us bear patiently the struggle placed upon

With so many witnesses in a great cloud on every side of us, we too, then, should throw off everything that hinders us, especially the sin that clings so easily, and keep running steadily in the race we have started. Let us not lose sight of Jesus, who leads us in our faith and brings it to perfection: for the sake of the joy which was still in the future, he endured the cross, disregarding the shamefulness of it, and from now on has taken his place at the right of God's throne. Think of the way he stood such opposition from sinners and then you will not give up for want of courage. In the fight against sin, you have not yet had to keep fighting to the point of death.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, My sheep listen to my voice, says the Lord; I know them, and they follow me. alleluia! Alleluia!

Gospel

Luke 12:49-53

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

I have come not to give peace, but discord.

Jesus said to his disciples: 'I have come to bring fire to the earth, and how I wish it were blazing already! There is a baptism I must still receive, and how great is my distress till it is over!

'Do you suppose that I am here to bring peace on earth? No, I tell you, but rather division. For from now on a household of five will be divided: three against two and two against three; the father divided against the son, son against father, mother against daughter, daughter against mother, mother-in-law against daughter-in-law, daughter-in-law against mother-in-law.'

REFLECTION by Fr Michael Tate I have come to bring fire

A fierce fire in a eucalyptus forest bursts open the seed pods, cleanses the soil of smothering undergrowth, and returns nutrients to the soil to germinate the seeds. It is that sort of fire which Jesus brings to the earth.

So, at Pentecost, He sent His Holv Spirit '. . . like tongues of fire', bursting the early disciples out of the protective shell of the 'Upper Room', allowing them to be germinated as seeds of the early Church. It is the same in every generation which has to ask: What personal, family or social situations provide a hard casing which must be cracked open? What is the smothering undergrowth which prevents germination as fearless disciples?

Jesus himself felt smothered by the small-minded people of Nazareth to which He never returned. He warns that families and good friends can try to smother the spark He wishes to ignite.

We might pause for a moment to pray that the fiery Holy Spirit might enable us to become a stand of tall trees reaching for the Risen Son in all His glory.

© Fr Michael Tate; mtate@bigpond.com

Rev Prof Michael Tate graduated in Law from the University of Tasmania in 1968, and in Theology from Oxford University in 1971. He lectured at the University of Tasmania from 1972-78, being Dean of the Faculty of Law in 1977-78. He was a Senator for Tasmania from 1978-93, being Federal Minister for Justice from 1987-93. He served as Ambassador to The Hague and the Holy See from 1993-96. He then returned to Australia and was ordained in May 2000 and has been a parish priest in the Archdiocese of Hobart since then. He is an Honorary Professor of Law at the University of Tasmania where he lectures in International Humanitarian Law.

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.

We pray those who have recently died

We remember those whose Anniversaries occur around this time including

Rosemarie Banares, Dorothy Rose Enright, Clare Fitzpatrick, Wilma Kane, Brad Kedwell, Joan Redgrove, Shirley Ann McHugh, Rita Marquez, Eufronio Renido, Marianito Renido, Nell Rowan, Gavin Shaw, Ida Stace, Mary Margaret Trappel, Peggy Turnbull, Barbara Thomas

We pray for those who are sick at this time

Cecelia Adapon-Capistrano, Dalisay Almanza, Teresa Almanza, Lorraine Bartlett, Ron Bartlett, Robert Dewsbury, Patrick Brennan, Wayne Canny, Luke Crotty, Olga Charlton, Rita Clarin, Christine Edwards, Reg Glover, Randy Janzen, Jolanta Jenkinson, Ellen Jory, Karen Kenyon, Margaret King, Loretta Lamoury (NZ), Peter Levestam (Fiji), Michael Lockyer, Gina Marquez, Brian Perrin, Jen Phillips, Roberts family, Olga Rusak, Anne Standing, Crystal Towers, Martina Van Den Broek, Arlo John Vandermeer, Gayle Williams, John Williams, Maureen Wilson, Jo Winkler, Elfrieda Zimmerman

We pray for those who will be baptised

Harper Grace Daly, Darcy Fay Easey, Max Keith Easey, Rory Louise Ryan

For those who will be Married Stephen Caslick and Courtney Justice

Use the words below to find out what Jesus said to his disciples.	WORDSEARCH													Lk	12:49-53	choose
Do you that I	Tesus makes people choose sides															disciples
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division	K	E	Y	5	Q	5	H	Z	5	A	M	E	W	P	H	mother
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Get ready for the Australian Catholic Youth Festival 2025 Join 10,000 young Catholics for an unforgettable Jubilee Year celebration!

The **Australian Catholic Youth Festival (ACYF)** is back — and it's bigger than ever! After five years, we're thrilled to invite YOU to be part of a powerful encounter with Jesus Christ, alongside thousands of passionate young people from across the country.

What's Happening?

Together with **Bishop Michael Kennedy**, we're leading a **pilgrimage of 100 young people** from the Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle to Melbourne for ACYF 2025!

Dates: Saturday 29 November – Wednesday 3 December

Travel: Return flights from Newcastle

Stay: Mercure Welcome Hotel (twin-share, breakfast included)
Cost: \$950 pp (includes flights, registration, transport, diocesan shirt)

All pilgrims will take part in a dynamic formation program and be commissioned on Christ the King Sunday

Who Can Come? 50 spots for young people aged 16–25 from parishes across the Diocese 50 Year 10 students from Catholic secondary schools (plus young teachers) — future youth ministry leaders in the making! We're aiming for at least one young person from every parish — let's build a vibrant diocesan identity together! Spots are limited and will fill fast — first come, first served! Parishes are encouraged to subsidise costs or support fundraising to make this opportunity even more accessible. Please contact Bec for more information rebecca.piefke@mn.catholic.org.au



Places of Pilgrimage in Our Region

St. John's Chapel Maitland

The Chapel will not be open for Pilgrimage visits during the day except on the following dates between 11am - 3pm. Wednesday, 10th September Wednesday, 15th October, Wednesday, 12th November, Wednesday, 9th December If you wish to visit outside of these dates, please make an appointment in advance.

St. Joseph's, East Maitland

Sunday

MondayPrivate Adoration: 9:30am - 10:30amTuesdayPrivate Adoration: 9:30am - 10:30amMass open from: 5:00pm - 7:00pmWednesdayPrivate Adoration: 9:30am - 10:30am

Thursday Rosary: 6:30am, Mass: 7:00am,

Private Adoration: 9:30am - 10:30am

Friday Rosary: 6:30am, Mass and Private Adoration: 7:00am - 9:00am,

1st Friday: 24-hour Private Adoration from 7:00am Friday to 8:00am Saturday

Saturday Mass, Rosary, Reconciliation: 8:00am - 10:00am,

Mass (Vigil): 5:00pm, 2nd Saturday: Mass at 8:00am followed by Eucharistic & Marian Holy

Hour, Benediction & Reconciliation at 8:30am. Dates: 9th August, 13th September,

11th October, 8th November, 13th December Scheduled Mass Times: 8:30am & 6:00pm

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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



Anointing Mass Will be held at Our Lady of Lourdes, Celebrating First Holy Communion Beresfield on Friday 22nd August at 10.00am. All Welcome.

Bible and Prayer Group for families

6pm Tuesdays in the Prayer Room of the East Maitland Church, during school term.

A huge thank you for the contributions to the recent Vinnies Winter Appeal. St Joseph's contributed \$7129 and Morpeth \$1230. These donations will be used to assist our local families.

Craft Group Monday's, Therry Centre

9.30am -12pm. Morning Tea Provided.

Phone: Joanne 4936 1326.

Catholic Women's League

East Maitland Branch invite you to a talk by Judy and Geoff Hicks on the work they do helping missions in overseas countries. At the Corcoran Centre, James St. Craft Group at Holy Family Largs Hall every Tuesday Morpeth on Thursday 11th September, 10am Morning area provided. Every tea to follow the talk. Donation \$10: Proceeds to Help Bring your craft or just come for the company. Judy and Geoff with their work RSVP: 4th September Colleen: 0400383950 or Anne: 0413489129 If unanswered, please leave a message on voicemail or send a text to above mobile numbers

Praise & Worship Experience at the Cathedral

Sacred Heart Cathedral, Newcastle West for an uplifting afternoon of praise and worship! Sunday 24 August 2:30pm - 4:30pm All are FOR TICKETS welcome! (Children under 16 years old must be supervised.) Cost: Free – donations gratefully accepted at the event. Tickets: Scan the QR code.

Piety Stall at St Joseph's East Maitland will be closed this weekend.

WEEKDAY MASS ROSTER

Monday 18th August

<u>Tues 19th August</u> (Optional St John Eudes, priest) **5.30pm** Mass, St Joseph's, East Maitland

Wed 20th August (Memorial St Bernard, abbot, doctor) **6.00pm** Mass, Holy Family, Largs

Thurs 21st August (Memorial St Pius X, pope) 7.00am Mass St Joseph's, East Maitland

Fri 22nd August (Memorial The Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary)

10.00am Anointing Mass, Our Lady of Lourdes Beresfield

Sat 23rd August (Optional St Rose of Lima, Virgin) 8.00am Mass, St Joseph's, East Maitland

Sun 24th August

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)

This weekend, we joyfully celebrate a sacred milestone in the lives of our parish children as they receive their First Holy Communion. With hearts full of faith and wonder, they come to the table of the Lord for the very first time, partaking in the Body and Blood of Christ.

Children When you receive Jesus in the Eucharist, may you feel His love surrounding you, guiding you, and filling your heart with peace. This is not just a ceremony it is a beautiful beginning of a lifelong friendship with Christ. May your soul be nourished, your spirit be strengthened, and your heart be forever open to His grace.

Parents and the SOI Team Thank you for nurturing the faith of the children and walking with them on this sacred journey. Your love and example are the foundation upon which their faith is built. Let us all pray for these young communicants, that they may grow in holiness, walk in the light of Christ, and always know the joy of being part of God's family. May this day be filled with blessings, joy, and the peace of

from 9.30am. Morning Tea provided. Everyone welcome.

I'm excited to share that I have recently applied for, and been successful in gaining, a new position as a Learning Support Assistant at Our Lady of Lourdes, Tarro. I'll be starting this role in early September while continuing my ministry as Youth Coordinator. I'm looking forward to this new chapter and am grateful for your prayers and support. Rebecca Piefke

aMeN caMiNo Weekend Experience - MYALL COAST Saturday 6 / Sunday 7 September weekend walk during this year's Season of Creation at the beautiful Myall Coast with opportunities for prayer and reflection in nature, set amongst the beautiful wildflowers and gorgeous coastline. Join us for one day or two, walking 5km or 12kms. Start and end point is St Stephen's Catholic Church, Tea Gardens. Learn more: aMeN caMiNo Weekend Experience - Catholic Diocese of Maitland Newcastle

PRIVATE PRAYER / ADORATION / ROSARY/ BIBLE STUDY

SCAN HERE

Mon 18th August 9.30am-10.30am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament,

St Joseph's, East Maitland

5.00pm Rosary, Sacred Heart, Campbell's Hill

<u>Tues 19th August</u> **9.30am-10.30am** Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament,

St Joseph's, East Maitland

Bible Study for families, Prayer Room St Joseph's East Maitland 6.00pm

Wed 20th August

9.30am-10.30am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament,

St Joseph's, East Maitland

Thurs 21st August 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 22nd August

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

Our Lady of Lourdes, Beresfield

Sat 23rd August

5.30pm Rosary, Our Lady of Lourdes, Beresfield

Please see the front of the bulletin for weekend Mass times