

PARISH OFFICE: 302 High St Maitland
Tuesday - Friday 9.30am - 3.30pm
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)
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

Assistant Priests:

Fr Priyantha Fernando

Fr Anil Kuchipudi

Fr Anthony Coloma

Deacon:

Dcn Christopher Voigt

Regional Office Staff:

Jane Wild, Janine Sidoti, Sandra Buck

Presbytery: 4934 5783

Urgent Priest on Duty: 0428 017 273

**Spiritual care of sick & aged in care
or at home:** Phone office 49338918

Funeral Ministry: 0428 220 997

Safeguarding Promotors:

Amber Carter, Brian Lacey
0249338918

We are in the country of the Worimi,
Gamilleri, 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

Isaiah 25:6-10

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

*The Lord will prepare a feast and will wipe
away the tears from every cheek.*

On this mountain,
the Lord of hosts will prepare for all
people
a banquet of rich food, a banquet of
fine wines,
of food rich and juicy, of fine strained
wines.
On this mountain he will remove
the mourning veil covering all peoples,
and the shroud enwrapping all nations,
he will destroy Death for ever.

The Lord will wipe away
the tears from every cheek;
he will take away his people's shame
everywhere on earth,
for the Lord has said so.
That day, it will be said: See, this is our
God
in whom we hoped for salvation;
the Lord is the one in whom we hoped.
We exult and we rejoice
that he has saved us;
for the hand of the Lord
rests on this mountain.

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

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 22. R. v.6

(R.) I shall live in the house of the
Lord all the days of my life.

Second Reading

Philippians 4:12-14. 19-20

A reading from the letter of St Paul to
the Philippians

*I am able to do all things in him who
strengthens me.*

I know how to be poor and I know how
to be rich too. I have been through my
initiation and now I am ready for
anything anywhere: full stomach or
empty stomach, poverty or plenty. There
is nothing I cannot master with the help
of the One who gives me strength. All
the same, it was good of you to share
with me in my hardships. In return my
God will fulfil all your needs, in Christ
Jesus, as lavishly as only God can.
Glory to God, our Father, for ever and
ever. Amen.

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

Gospel Acclamation

See Ephesians 1:17-18

Alleluia, alleluia!

May the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ
enlighten the eyes of our heart
that we might see how great is the hope
to which we are called.

Alleluia!

Gospel

Matthew 22:1-14

A reading from the holy Gospel
according to Matthew

Whomsoever you find invite to the wedding.

Jesus said to the chief priests and elders
of the people: 'The kingdom of heaven
may be compared to a king who gave a
feast for his son's wedding. He sent his
servants to call those who had been
invited, but they would not come. Next
he sent some more servants. "Tell those
who have been invited" he said "that I
have my banquet all prepared, my oxen
and fattened cattle have been
slaughtered, everything is ready. Come
to the wedding." But they were not
interested: one went off to his farm,
another to his business, and the rest
seized his servants, maltreated them
and killed them. The king was furious.
He dispatched his troops, destroyed
those murderers and burnt their town.
Then he said to his servants, "The
wedding is ready; but as those who were
invited proved to be unworthy, go to the
crossroads in the town and invite
everyone you can find to the wedding."
So these servants went out onto the
roads and collected together everyone
they could find, bad and good alike; and
the wedding hall was filled with guests.
When the king came in to look at the
guests he noticed one man who was not
wearing a wedding garment, and said to
him, "How did you get in here, my friend,
without a wedding garment?" And the
man was silent. Then the king said to the
attendants, "Bind him hand and foot and
throw him out into the dark, where there
will be weeping and grinding of teeth."
For many are called, but few are
chosen.'

**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, (<i>all bow</i>) 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.
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Update on the Implementation of the Recommendations of the Assembly

Rutherford Presbytery

The Rutherford presbytery will be vacated on the 15th of October 2026, after which the necessary repair works can be undertaken. The Ad-experimentum – Presbytery Design document will be available at the back of the church this weekend for parishioners to read and familiarise themselves with the requirements for priestly accommodation. You will notice that the existing Rutherford presbytery does not fully meet these requirements. Nevertheless, at present, it remains the only practical accommodation option for the priest serving both Rutherford and Lochinvar. While this provides an interim solution, it also gives us an opportunity to think carefully about a more permanent arrangement.

In his letter to parishioners of the 26th of August 2026, Bishop Michael Kennedy wrote: *“My own hope is that this may lead to the parishes one day requesting a more formal merge.”* This invitation from the Bishop gives us an opportunity to look positively and realistically at what the future might hold.

A formal merger is different from the present twinning arrangement. The question we need to consider is whether there is a pastoral or practical advantage in maintaining the present arrangement for an extended period, or whether moving towards a formal merger sooner would provide greater stability, clarity and opportunities for the two communities to plan their future together.

There may, of course, be reasons for taking more time. However, if the two communities are already sharing a parish priest and increasingly needing to consider their pastoral ministry, finances, property and resources together, we should also ask whether there is a real benefit in postponing a decision that may eventually need to be made. An earlier decision could potentially allow the two communities to plan together with greater certainty and make better use of their combined resources for the future.

I therefore encourage parishioners to prayerfully reflect on whether moving towards a formal merger at an appropriate time may be the more constructive way forward, while ensuring that the identity, traditions and pastoral needs of both communities are respected.

Permanent Accommodation for the Priest

The question of priestly accommodation also needs to be considered in this broader context. The former Lochinvar presbytery was sold with the agreement that, if a parish priest is appointed to Lochinvar in the future, suitable accommodation would be provided.

A duplex was previously considered, with one part being used as the priest's residence and the other for rental income. However, the requirements contained in the Presbytery Design document indicate that this would not be a practical or appropriate solution. We should therefore consider a long-term solution, either by using the proceeds from the sale of the former Lochinvar presbytery to build a suitable new presbytery or by purchasing a suitable house near Lochinvar.

These decisions are significant, and it would be wise to consider them alongside the broader question of the future relationship between Rutherford and Lochinvar, rather than making separate short-term decisions that may need to be reconsidered later.

East Maitland Presbytery

There is also work to be undertaken at the East Maitland presbytery, and I have not yet been able to secure a builder. If any parishioners know of reliable and suitably qualified builders who could inspect the property and undertake the necessary works, I would be very grateful for your recommendations. Having two or more suitable builders to consider would help us progress the work within a reasonable timeframe.

Parish Pastoral Council and Parish Finance Council

The Statutes of the Parish Pastoral Council and Parish Finance Council will be available at the back of the church this weekend for parishioners to read and familiarise themselves with.

If parishioners would like the election and formation of these councils to take place before the appointment of the new parish priests, please let me know. Otherwise, we can leave the formation of the councils to the newly appointed parish priests.

However, the usual practice is that, soon after taking possession of the office of parish priest, the new parish priest meets with the Parish Pastoral Council and Parish Finance Council and continues the parish's synodal journey and mission. I therefore invite you to consider this matter and share your advice and preference.

A Request for Prayer – Annual Clergy Retreat

Bishop Michael Kennedy and the clergy of the Diocese will be undertaking their annual retreat from the 11th to the 16th of October. I kindly ask you to keep Bishop Michael and all the clergy in your prayers during these days of retreat, that this time of prayer, reflection and renewal may deepen our faith and strengthen us in our service to God and His people.

Rosary Beads and Leaflets

Finally, I would like to express my sincere gratitude to all those who have generously supported the distribution of Rosary beads and leaflets. One hundred were distributed last weekend, and a further one hundred have now been organised. A donation box will be available in the church for the next weekends to help meet the cost of these materials. Thank you for your generosity and for supporting this beautiful initiative.

I was especially delighted to hear that, at the Sunday evening Youth Mass, our young people have begun praying the Rosary together before Mass. This is a very encouraging sign of faith. I am deeply grateful to all those who are helping to pass on this precious tradition of prayer to the younger generation. When we teach our young people to pray the Rosary, we are not simply teaching them a devotion; we are placing in their hands a beautiful means of drawing closer to Jesus through the loving intercession of His Mother.

May Our Lady of the Rosary bless all our young people, protect them, guide them in their lives and lead them ever closer to her Son, Jesus.

With every blessing,

Fr George Anthicad PP

We pray those who have recently died

Kenneth James Hickey, Paul James Richardson

We remember those whose Anniversaries occur around this time including

Daniel Brennan, Michael William Brennan, Lyall Kingston, Milton (Stony) Warby

We pray for those who are sick at this time

Lorraine Bartlett, Ronald Bartlett, Graham Bell, June Carlson, Mary Coombes, Karen Kenyon,
Solomon Keys, Lesley Marshall, John O'Reilly, Angus Charles Palm, Jen Phillips,
Margaret Pratt, Christine Price (Glen Innes), James (Jim) Smith, Anne Standing, Amelia Vanhoogstraten,
Marc-Zachariah Vicente, Pauline Wade, Paul Anthony Will, Jo Winkler, Anthony Zysek

We pray for those who will be Baptised

Harvey Raymund Banister-Barbaro, Esmé Hannah Baker Porena, Sullivan Scott Baker Porena,
Zachary James Baker Porena

Names will remain on the sick list for six weeks only. Please contact the office if you wish to add a name to the list.

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 contact the Office of Safeguarding: P 4979 1390

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Parish Notices



Freecall: 1800 257 296
catholicmission.org.au/united



For Yamikani*, getting to school means walking long distances in pain, often without enough food or strength to make the journey. For many families in vulnerable and remote areas like rural Malawi, education has become an impossible choice.

But there is hope. Led by Fr Matthew Semba, a new primary school is being built, offering children a safe place to learn, grow, and look ahead with renewed possibility.

This World Mission Month, you are invited to share in this mission, standing with families as they rebuild their lives and create a brighter future for their children.

*Name changed for privacy

Receiving Holy Communion with Reverence

Dear Parishioners, As the children are currently preparing to receive the Sacraments, I would like to take this opportunity to offer a gentle reminder to all, so that we may give them a good example through our reverence and practice.

Please observe the following guidelines while receiving Holy Communion:

1. You may receive Holy Communion either in the hand or on the tongue. If receiving in the hand, please place one hand over the other, forming a throne, and consume the Host immediately in front of the minister.
2. The Sacred Host must be consumed at once. Please do not walk away holding the Host.
3. Only those who have received their First Holy Communion may receive communion during Mass. **If an adult or a child has not yet received the First Holy Communion, they may come forward for a blessing with arms crossed over the chest.**
4. The Sacred Host must never be shared with others, including children. If your child has not received First Holy Communion, please do not give them the Sacred Host. I request our practicing parishioners to kindly assist others in receiving Holy Communion with reverence.

I request our practicing parishioners to kindly assist others in receiving Holy Communion with reverence.

Fr George Anthicad PP

WEEKDAY LITURGY AND MASS ROSTER

NO MASSES 13 TO 16 OCTOBER 2026 – LITURGY ONLY

Tuesday 13th October

5.30pm Liturgy, St Joseph's, East Maitland

Wednesday 14th October (St Callistus I, pope, martyr. Optional)

6.00pm Liturgy, Holy Family, Largs

Thursday 15th October (St Teresa of Jesus, virgin, doctor)

7.00am Liturgy, St Joseph's, East Maitland

Friday 16th October (St Hedwig, religious. Optional; St Margaret Mary Alacoque, virgin. Optional)

7.00am Liturgy, St Joseph's, East Maitland

Saturday 17th October

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

Sunday 18th October

9.30am Latin Mass - St John the Baptist Oratory Cathedral St Maitland.

Confessions Saturday 3:30pm - 4.30pm
Sunday 8.45am - 9:25am

First Sunday of Month Polish Mass

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

PRIVATE PRAYER/ ADORATION/ ROSARY

Mon 12th October

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

5.00pm Rosary, Sacred Heart, Campbell's Hill

Tues 13th October

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

6.00pm Bible Sharing, St Joseph's, East Maitland

Wed 14th October

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

Thurs 15th October

7.30-8.30am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, St Joseph's, East Maitland

Fri 16th October

7.30 - 8.30am Adoration, St. Joseph's, East Maitland

9.30am Prayer of the Church, Our Lady of Lourdes, Beresfield

Sat 17th October

5.30pm Rosary, Our Lady of Lourdes, Beresfield