Maitland Catholic Region



32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time
8th November 2026
Prison Sunday

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, Gamilleroi, Wonnarua, Gweagul, Darkinjung, Biripi and Awabakal peoples. We respectfully acknowledge their Elders, celebrate their continuing culture and the living memory of their ancestors.

WE ARE NATIONAL CATHOLIC SAFEGUARDING STANDARDS CERTIFIED

Dear Parishioners,

November is a special month in the life of the church. It is a time to pause, remember with gratitude those we have loved and lost, and renew our prayers for all the faithful departed. The people who once shared our homes, our meals, our joys and our lives may no longer be physically with us, but they remain in our hearts and in our prayers.

As Catholics, we believe in the Communion of Saints. Our relationship with those who have died is not forgotten or broken. We entrust them to God's loving mercy and pray that they may share fully in the joy of eternal life.
How can we make this November a month of prayer for our departed loved ones?

I encourage every family and individual to make a conscious effort to practice some of these beautiful Catholic traditions:

- **Offer a Holy Mass for your departed loved ones**. Have Mass offered for your deceased parents, grandparents, relatives, and friends. There is no greater gift we can offer them than our prayer at the Eucharist.
- **Visit the cemetery**. Make time to visit the graves of your loved ones. Clean and care for their resting places, place flowers if appropriate, and spend a few moments in prayer.
- **Pray the Rosary for the departed**. Include your deceased family members and friends in your daily family Rosary. Encourage children to remember their grandparents and other departed relatives in their prayers.
- **Offer a small sacrifice**. Dedicate an act of kindness, a personal sacrifice or an act of charity for the intentions of the faithful departed.
- **Remember the forgotten souls**. Let us make a special commitment to pray for those who have nobody to remember them: the lonely, the abandoned, those who died without family, and those whose names are known to no one. Somewhere, there are people whose graves are never visited and whose names are never mentioned in prayer. Let us not allow them to be forgotten. Include them in your mass intentions and daily prayers.
- **Share the gift of remembrance with children**. Tell them stories about their departed grandparents and relatives. Teach them that praying for the dead is a beautiful expression of love that continues beyond death.

Perhaps this November we could do something simple but meaningful: remember one deceased person each day in our prayers, arrange a Mass for someone who has died, or visit a cemetery as a family. These small acts of faith can become a beautiful expression of our love and Christian hope.

Let us remember that one day, we too will depend on the prayers of others. May we therefore be generous in praying for those who have gone before us, especially those who have on one to pray for them.

As scripture reminds us: "It is therefore a holy and wholesome thought to pray for the dead, that they may be loosed from sins" (2 Maccabees 12:46).
May our prayers bring comfort to our hearts, strengthen our hope in the resurrection and unite us more deeply in the love of Christ.

Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.

With prayers and blessings,
Fr George Anthicad PP

First Reading
Wisdom 6:12-16

A reading from the book of Wisdom

Wisdom is found by those who look for it.

Wisdom is bright, and does not grow dim.
By those who love her she is readily seen,
and found by those who look for her.
Quick to anticipate those who desire her, she makes herself known to them.
Watch for her early and you will have no trouble;
you will find her sitting at your gates.
Even to think about her is understanding fully grown;
be on the alert for her and anxiety will quickly leave you.
She herself walks about looking for those who are worthy of her
and graciously shows herself to them as they go,
in every thought of theirs coming to meet them.

The Word of the Lord
Thanks be to God

Responsorial Psalm
Ps 62:2-8. R. v.2

(R.) My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord my God.

Second Reading
1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Thessalonians

Those who died as Christians, God will bring to life with Jesus.

We want you to be quite certain, brothers, about those who have died, to make sure that you do not grieve about them, like the other people who have no hope. We believe that Jesus died and rose again, and that it will be the same for those who have died in Jesus: God will bring them with him. We can tell you this from the Lord's own teaching, that any of us who are left alive until the Lord's coming will not have any advantage over those who have died. At the trumpet of God, the voice of the archangel will call out the command and the Lord himself will come down from heaven; those who have died in Christ will be the first to rise, and then those of us who are still alive will be taken up in the clouds, together with them, to meet the Lord in the air. So we shall stay with the Lord for ever. With such thoughts as these you should comfort one another.

The Word of the Lord
Thanks be to God

Gospel Acclamation
Matthew 24:42. 44

Alleluia, alleluia!
Be watchful and ready:
you know not when the Son of Man is coming.
Alleluia!

Gospel
Matthew 25:1-13

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

Look, the bridegroom comes. Go out to meet him.

Jesus told this parable to his disciples: 'The kingdom of heaven will be like this: Ten bridesmaids took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. Five of them were foolish and five of them were sensible: the foolish ones did take their lamps, but they brought no oil, whereas the sensible ones took flasks of oil as well as their lamps. The bridegroom was late, and they all grew drowsy and fell asleep. But at midnight there was a cry, "The bridegroom is here! Go out and meet him." At this, all those bridesmaids woke up and trimmed their lamps, and the foolish ones said to the sensible ones, "Give us some of your oil: our lamps are going out." But they replied, "There may not be enough for us and for you; you had better go to those who sell it and buy some for yourselves." They had gone off to buy it when the bridegroom arrived. Those who were ready went in with him to the wedding hall and the door was closed. The other bridesmaids arrived later. "Lord, Lord," they said, "open the door for us." But he replied, "I tell you solemnly, I do not know you." So stay awake, because you do not know either the day or the hour.'

The Gospel of the Lord
Praise to You, Lord Jesus Christ

Living the Gospel – Living in hope.

A feature of Christian faith is an approach to life that views the future with hope. In our world today many people look to the future with distrust and even fear. As Christians, we look forward with hope. When change occurs, some allow that change to happen *to* them whilst others engage in the change process and approach it with hope and expectation. Today's gospel reminds us to be ready for what the future holds; to look with hope towards what lies ahead, but to ensure that we've prepared ourselves properly. The future can only be viewed with expectant hope if we've done the proper preparation!

November Memorial Services

November is a special time when we remember our dearly departed.

- Mass at Morpeth Cemetery, 16th November at 6pm celebrated by Bishop Brian Mascord
- Liturgy in the Paterson Cemetery 12th November at 6pm. Please bring your own chair; the Liturgy will be held in the Church should there be inclement weather.

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 for those who have recently died

Shirley Elaine Bell, Norma Rose Burns, Frances Robbins, Jonlo Romano

We remember those whose Anniversaries occur around this time including

Fr John Carroll C.Sc.R, Jane Mary Edmonds, Matthew Joseph Edmonds, Anthony John Edmonds, Edmonds family, G & F Groves, R & D Groves, E & D Macmillan and family, Josie Morephett, Patrick Joseph O'Brien, L & M Thomson and family, Ian Tucker, Sherwin Tully, Lochlin Unicomb, Lex Warby, Most Rev. William Wright

We pray for those who are sick at this time

Lorraine Bartlett, Ronald Bartlett, Graham Bell, June Carlson, David Carroll, Mary Coombes, Karen Kenyon, Solomon Keys, Hilary Lantry, 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

Mia Grace Dallen, Alyssa Ann Pearce, Everleigh Shannon Pearce, Charlie Leo Thomas Simmons, Ruby Valerie Stewart, Alexander Benjamin Walters, Guinevere Wren Whipps

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.

Help Lead the Rosary Before Mass

Our world is in need of prayer.
We will continue to recite the Holy Rosary as a parish community before weekend Masses at St Joseph's East Maitland.
Parishioners are invited to lead the Rosary before the Saturday Vigil 5pm Mass and the 8.30am Sunday morning Mass.
Parishioners are also needed to operate the Power point from the computer.
If you are able to assist in either ministry, please provide your name and phone number to the Parish Office and your name will be added to a monthly roster.

Requirements:

- **Arrive Early:** Be at the church 30 minutes before Mass begins.
- **Use the microphone at the Organ**. Ensure it is turned on.
- **Pray the Glorious Mysteries of the Rosary**
- **Use the power point slides which are on the computer desktop.**

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

Sacraments of Initiation for Children 2026
If you would like your child to complete their Sacraments of Initiation next year, please attend one of the following sessions.

Tuesday 6pm on 24th November 2026 at
St Paul's Church Rutherford OR
Wednesday 6pm on 25th November 2026 at
St Joseph's Church, East Maitland, OR
Thursday 6pm on 26th November 2026 at
Our Lady of Lourdes Church, Beresfield.

For further detailed information please take a parent letter from your church foyer, check the school 'compass' or email SOIchisholm@mn.catholic.org.au

Prison Sunday
"No one is excluded from God's love! Each of us, with our unique stories, mistakes and sufferings, remains precious in the Lord's eyes… Even when he (Jesus) was arrested, condemned and put to death through no fault of his own, he loved us to the very end. In doing so, he showed us that he believed in the power of love to change even the hardest of hearts." Pope Leo XIV, Visit to Bata Prison, Equatorial Guinea, April 2026. On this day Pope Leo XIV has asked that we pray for those people who are imprisoned and for those who care for them.

November Mass Offerings
Envelopes are now available in the church. Please write the names of those you wish to include on the envelope provided or place a separate list inside it. Envelopes may be returned with the Mass stipend via the collection baskets or delivered directly to the Chisholm Region Parish Office.

EUCHARISTIC & MARIAN HOLY HOUR

Exposition, Benediction, Rosary and Confession
Saturday 14th November 2026 8.30AM-9.30AM
(Following 8am Mass at St Joseph's)
St Joseph's East Maitland

You are invited to join us as we continue to intercede for the needs of the Church and of the world.
We especially pray for peace which is in danger and for the souls of the faithful departed.

Catholic Mission
Thank you to all who have contributed to the Catholic Mission Appeal.
Please return envelopes by placing them in the regular collection or returning them to the office as soon as possible.

WEEKDAY MASS ROSTER

Monday 9th November *(Dedication of the Lateran Basilica)*

Tuesday 10th November *(St Leo the Great)*
5.30pm Mass, St Joseph's, East Maitland

Wednesday 11th November *(St Martin of Tours)*
6.00pm Mass, Holy Family, Largs

Thursday 12th November *(St Josaphat)*
7.00am Mass, St Joseph's, East Maitland

Friday 13th November
7.00am Mass, St Joseph's, East Maitland

Saturday 14th November
8.00am Mass and Reconciliation, St Joseph's, East Maitland

Sunday 15th November
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 9th November
9.30-10.30am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, St Joseph's, East Maitland
5.00pm Rosary, Sacred Heart, Campbell's Hill

Tues 10th November
~~**9.30-10.30am** Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, St Joseph's, East Maitland~~
Funeral
6.00pm Bible Sharing, St Joseph's, East Maitland

Wed 11th November
9.30-10.30am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, St Joseph's, East Maitland

Thurs 12th November
7.30-8.30am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, St Joseph's, East Maitland

Fri 13th November
7.30am – 8.00am Saturday Adoration, St. Joseph's, East Maitland
9.30am Prayer of the Church, Our Lady of Lourdes, Beresfield

Sat 14th November
8.30-9.30am Eucharistic and Marian Holy Hour Exposition, Benediction, Rosary and Confession
5.30pm Rosary, Our Lady of Lourdes, Beresfield