

Sacred Heart Cathedral,  
Hamilton



St Joseph's,  
The Junction



St Mary, Star of the Sea,  
Newcastle



Immaculate Heart of Mary,  
Tighes Hill



St Laurence O'Toole's,  
Broadmeadow



Christ the King,  
Mayfield West



St Peter-in-Chains',  
Stockton

# THE CATHOLIC PARISHES OF THE CITY PASTORAL REGION

## SUNDAY, 26TH APRIL 2020 3RD SUNDAY OF EASTER

*Incorporating the Parishes of St Benedict's, Inner Newcastle, St Columban's, Mayfield, and St Peter-in-Chains, Stockton, our mission is to proclaim Christ in the inner suburbs of the City of Newcastle.*

*Our Parishes incorporate suburbs located on the traditional country of the Awabakal and Worimi peoples. We acknowledge their cultural heritage, beliefs and continuing relationship with the land, pay respect to their Elders past and present, and commit ourselves to work together for reconciliation and justice.*

### Clergy in the Region

Fr Andrew Doohan  
Fr James Odoh  
Fr Peter Street

Fr Matthew Muller  
Fr Peter Thoai  
Deacon Lawrence Caelli

### Regional Office—St Benedict's Centre

25 Farquhar Street, The Junction  
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### Regional Office Staff

Margaret Cox (*Reception & Administration*)  
Jade Simonsen (*Business Manager*)  
Anne Warren (*Administration*)  
Dr Anne Millard (*Director of Music, Liturgy & Sacramental Program*)

### Other Contacts

Lingard Hospital Team	Contact the Regional Office	
Mercy Pastoral Team	Sr Patricia Whitten rsm	(02) 4979 1116
St Joseph's Pastoral Team	Contact the Regional Centre	

### Regional Bulletin

The Bulletin is published weekly.

Prayer requests and items for the Bulletin should be received at the Regional Office by Noon on Wednesdays.

### IMPORTANT TO NOTE!

The COVID-19 situation means the churches are all now closed and public celebrations of Mass and sacraments are all cancelled. This includes all weekday and weekend Masses. There will be no baptisms, nor will reconciliation be available in any church.

Until further notice, there will be no meetings of parish groups in the region. This includes meetings at the City Region Catholic Centre at 25 Farquhar Street, The Junction.

Attendance at weddings is limited to the bride and groom, the celebrant and two witnesses (five people in total). Attendance at funerals is limited to ten mourners. In both instances, the 'one person per 4 square metres' rule must be observed.

While we cannot currently run our regular book club meetings, we have an alternative! 'Zoom' technology offers free video conferencing for sessions of up to 40 minutes. We will use this for our next book club meeting at 6.30pm on Sunday, 3rd May, when we will share our thoughts on the book, *The Museum of Modern Love*, by Heather Rose. If you would like to participate in future book club meetings, please email the parish office to request instructions.



### **Current contact arrangements for the Regional Office**

Please do not attend the office at 25 Farquhar Street, The Junction in person.

All inquiries are to be made via email to [newcparish@mn.catholic.org.au](mailto:newcparish@mn.catholic.org.au) or by phone on 4979 1101

### **IN YOUR CHARITY, PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS:**

#### **RECENTLY DECEASED:**

**ANNIVERSARY:** Tony Tamplin (jnr)

**SICK:** Bill Parker, Elizabeth Evans, Terry Davies, John Belcher, Libby Oates, Graeme Burrage, Brian Swift, Monica Bound, Peter McCabe, Joan Haynes, Tom Towers, Kerry Davies, Lawson Rankin, Patricia (Pat) Gillett

**SPECIAL INTENTION:** Please pray for all those throughout the world who are affected by COVID-19

*Names may be placed here by contacting the Regional Office. Please refer to the Policy Document on the Regional website—visit [www.newcastlecatholic.org.au/downloads](http://www.newcastlecatholic.org.au/downloads).*



**Bishop Bill will be celebrating Sunday Mass** in the Cathedral and he invites you to join with him in prayer from home. You will be able to watch by Ctrl + clicking on this link at 9.30am on Sunday: <https://www.mn.catholic.org.au/places/livestream/> ...or use the same link to watch at a later time. Share the link with family and friends, and let's gather online to pray as a community at this difficult time of physical isolation.

### *An Act of Spiritual Communion*

My Jesus, I believe that You are in the Blessed Sacrament. I love you above all things and I long for you in my soul. Since I cannot now receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. As though You have already come, I embrace You and unite myself entirely to You; never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.



### **City Pastoral Region Online and Telephone groups**

Parishioners in the City Pastoral Region have started two groups to connect and pray with each other. You and your friends are welcome to join.

#### ***Praying the Sunday Gospel***

Each Tuesday 5.00-5.45pm

via internet: <https://zoom.us/j/147952077>

via phone: (02) 8015 2088 Meeting ID: 147952077#

#### ***Praying the Rosary***

Each Thursday 5.30-5.50pm

via internet: <https://zoom.us/j/654882094>

via phone: (02) 8015 2088 Meeting ID: 654882094#

### ***First Reading Acts 2:14, 22-23***

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

*It was impossible for him to be held by the power of Hades.*

On the day of Pentecost, Peter stood up with the Eleven and addressed the crowd in a loud voice: 'Men of Israel, listen to what I am going to say: Jesus the Nazarene was a man commended to you by God by the miracles and portents and signs that God worked through him when he was among you, as you all know. This man, who was put into your power by the deliberate intention and foreknowledge of God, you took and had crucified by men outside the Law. You killed him, but God raised him to life, freeing him from the pangs of Hades; for it was impossible for him to be held in its power since, as David says of him:

I saw the Lord before me always,  
for with him at my right hand nothing can shake me.  
So my heart was glad  
and my tongue cried out with joy:  
my body, too, will rest in the hope  
that you will not abandon my soul to Hades  
nor allow your holy one to experience corruption.  
You have made known the way of life to me,  
you will fill me with gladness through your  
presence.

‘Brothers, no one can deny that the patriarch David himself is dead and buried: his tomb is still with us. But since he was a prophet, and knew that God had sworn him an oath to make one of his descendants succeed him on the throne, what he foresaw and spoke about was the resurrection of the Christ: he is the one who was not abandoned to Hades, and whose body did not experience corruption. God raised this man Jesus to life, and all of us are witnesses to that. Now raised to the heights by God’s right hand, he has received from the Father the Holy Spirit, who was promised, and what you see and hear is the outpouring of that Spirit.’

**Responsorial Psalm Ps 15:1-2, 5, 7-11. R. v.11**

(R.) Lord, you will show us the path of life.

1. Preserve me, God, I take refuge in you.  
I say to the Lord: ‘You are my God.  
O Lord, it is you who are my portion and cup;  
it is you yourself who are my prize.’ (R.)
2. I will bless the Lord who gives me counsel,  
who even at night directs my heart.  
I keep the Lord ever in my sight:  
since he is at my right hand, I shall stand firm. (R.)
3. And so my heart rejoices, my soul is glad;  
even my body shall rest in safety.  
For you will not leave my soul among the dead,  
nor let your beloved know decay. (R.)
4. You will show me the path of life,  
the fullness of joy in your presence,  
at your right hand happiness for ever. (R.)

**Second Reading 1 Pt 1:17-21**

A reading from the first letter of St Peter

*The ransom that was paid to free you was the blood of the Lamb, Jesus Christ.*

If you are acknowledging as your Father one who has no favourites and judges everyone according to what he has done, you must be scrupulously careful as long as you are living away from your home. Remember, the ransom that was paid to free you from the useless way of life your ancestors handed down was not paid in anything corruptible, neither in silver nor gold, but in the precious blood of a lamb without spot or stain, namely Christ; who, though known since before the world was made, has been revealed only in our time, the end of the ages, for your sake. Through him you now have faith in God, who raised him from the dead and gave him glory for that very reason – so that you would have faith and hope in God.

**Gospel Acclamation See Lk 24:32**

Alleluia, alleluia!

Lord Jesus, make your word plain to us:

make our hearts burn with love when you speak.

Alleluia!

**Gospel Lk 24:13-35**

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

*They recognised him at the breaking of the bread.*

Two of the disciples of Jesus were on their way to a village called Emmaus, seven miles from Jerusalem, and they were talking together about all that had happened. Now as they talked this over, Jesus himself came up and walked by their side; but something prevented them from recognising him. He said to them, ‘What matters are you discussing as you walk along?’ They stopped short, their faces downcast.

Then one of them, called Cleopas, answered him, ‘You must be the only person staying in Jerusalem who does not know the things that have been happening there these last few days.’ ‘What things?’ he asked. ‘All about Jesus of Nazareth’ they answered ‘who proved he was a great prophet by the things he said and did in the sight of God and of the whole people; and how our chief priests and our leaders handed him over to be sentenced to death, and had him crucified. Our own hope had been that he would be the one to set Israel free. And this is not all: two whole days have gone by since it all happened; and some women from our group have astounded us: they went to the tomb in the early morning, and when they did not find the body, they came back to tell us they had seen a vision of angels who declared



For anyone who has Project Compassion boxes, please hold off on returning them until our Churches are open again and the normal Mass schedule resumes. Thank you.



he was alive. Some of our friends went to the tomb and found everything exactly as the women had reported, but of him they saw nothing.'

Then he said to them, 'You foolish men! So slow to believe the full message of the prophets! Was it not ordained that the Christ should suffer and so enter into his glory?' Then, starting with Moses and going through all the prophets, he explained to them the passages throughout the scriptures that were about himself.

When they drew near to the village to which they were going, he made as if to go on; but they pressed him to stay with them. 'It is nearly evening' they said 'and the day is almost over.' So he went in to stay with them. Now while he was with them at table, he took the bread and said the blessing; then he broke it and handed it to them. And their eyes were opened and they recognised him; but he had vanished from their sight. Then they said to each other, 'Did not our hearts burn within us as he talked to us on the road and explained the scriptures to us?'

They set out that instant and returned to Jerusalem. There they found the Eleven assembled together with their companions, who said to them, 'Yes, it is true. The Lord has risen and has appeared to Simon.' Then they told their story of what had happened on the road and how they had recognised him at the breaking of bread.

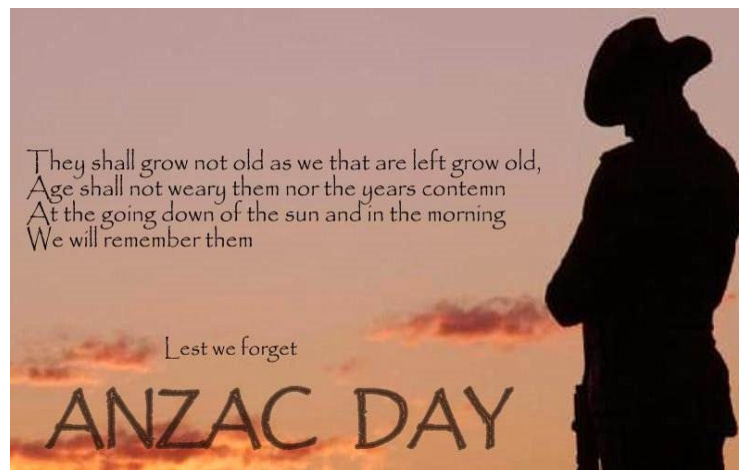
**Prayers and a bouquet  
of Masses during the  
coronavirus pandemic**



Aid to the  
Church in Need  
ACN AUSTRALIA

The coronavirus pandemic is testing all of us, but as people of faith, we believe in the power of prayer. At this time there is so much to pray for; those who have the virus, those who are losing their jobs, those who are scared, those who lead us, those who we love, and those who have died.

Aid to the Church in Need (ACN) is arranging a spiritual bouquet of Masses, imploring the graces each of us need at this time. ACN will give the Mass offerings to poor priests who have no other means of material support and the priests will offer Mass for the intentions of the benefactor. When we cannot currently attend Mass and receive the Eucharist, this unites the participants to a Mass that is offered for their intentions. To participate, please contact ACN on 1800 101201, or visit [www.aidtochurch.org/coronavirus](http://www.aidtochurch.org/coronavirus)



### *Lest We Forget*

Yesterday, 25th April, marked the anniversary of the Gallipoli campaign that led to major casualties for Australian and New Zealand armed forces during the First World War. A national day of remembrance, Anzac Day commemorates all Australians and New Zealanders who served in wars, conflicts and peace-keeping operations. In memory of all who died, we pray:

*God of love and liberty, we thank you for the peace and security we enjoy. It was won for us through the courage and devotion of those who gave their lives in time of war.*

*We pray that their labour and sacrifice may not be in vain, but that their spirit may live on in us and in generations to come.*

*We ask this prayer in the name of Jesus and in the power of the Holy Spirit. Amen.*

### **Let us Pray during the Coronavirus Crisis....**

Almighty and all-merciful God, lover of the human race, healer of all our wounds, in whom there is no shadow of death, save us in this time of crisis; grant wisdom and courage to our leaders; watch over all medical people as they tend the sick and work for a cure; stir in us a sense of solidarity beyond all isolation; if our doors are closed, let our hearts be open. By the power of your love destroy the virus of fear, that hope may never die and the light of Easter, the triumph of life, may shine upon us and the whole world. Through Jesus Christ, the Lord risen from the dead, who lives and reigns for ever and ever. Amen.

Holy Mary, health of the sick, pray for us.

St Joseph, guardian of us all, pray for us.

*Most Rev. Mark Coleridge, Archbishop of Brisbane*