



Sacred Heart of Jesus Cathedral

DIOCESE OF MAITLAND-NEWCASTLE

SUNDAY 20TH DECEMBER 2020 FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT, YEAR B

Sacred Heart Cathedral is the Cathedral Church of the Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle, a church of St Benedict's Parish, Inner Newcastle, and part of the City Pastoral Region.



“Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word.”

Artwork by He Qi

Our People

Fr Andrew Doohan VG (*Rector of the Cathedral*)

Email: rector@sacredhearthamilton.org.au

Dr Anne Millard (*Director of Music*)

Our Social Media

Website: www.sacredhearthamilton.org.au

Facebook: @SHCHamilton

Twitter: @HeartHamilton

YouTube: SacredHeartCathedralHamilton

Our Bulletin Our Bulletin is published weekly, and is also posted on our website each Saturday.

Please submit any prayer requests or items for inclusion in the Bulletin via the Office by Noon on Wednesdays.

Our Office—St Benedict's Centre

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Office Staff

Margaret Cox (*Reception & Administration*)

Debbie Ryan (*Reception & Administration*)

Anne Warren (*Business Manager—Interim*)

Sacred Heart Cathedral sits on the traditional country of the Awabakal and Worimi peoples.

We acknowledge their cultural heritage, beliefs and their continuing relationship with the land, pay respect to their Elders past, present and future, and commit ourselves to working together for reconciliation and justice.



CATHEDRAL DIARY...(for the week ahead)

Fourth Week of Advent

Monday—21 December

8:15am Mass

Tuesday—22 December

8:15am Mass

Wednesday—23 December

8:15am Mass

Thursday—24 December

8:15am Mass

5pm Christmas Vigil Mass (Live streamed)

7pm Christmas Vigil Mass

10pm Christmas Vigil Mass (Polish)

Friday—25 December

Midnight Christmas Day Mass (Live streamed)

7:30am Christmas Day Mass

9:30am Christmas Day Mass (Live streamed)

11:30am Christmas Day Mass (Polish)

Saturday—26 December

Feast of St Stephen, the first martyr

9.30am Mass

11am Mass (Polish)

5:30pm Vigil Mass

Sunday—27 December

Feast of the Holy Family

9:30am Mass (Live streamed)

11:30am Polish Mass

5pm Mass

LIVE-STREAMING NOTICE

The 9.30am Mass from Sacred Heart Cathedral is live-streamed (and recorded) each week. The camera is located under the choir loft and faces towards the sanctuary, though it can be directed to various parts of the Cathedral if needed.

Parishioners should be aware that they may be filmed during the celebration of the 9.30am Mass. This filming will mostly capture their image from behind. We cannot guarantee, however, that their faces will not be featured on the live-stream or recording, particularly the case during the Communion Procession. The live-stream will make use of multiple camera angles to minimise the identification of individuals as much as possible, but this will not eliminate the possibility of being filmed.

Parishioners with concerns about being filmed or recorded should speak with the Cathedral's Rector in the first instance.

PARISH NOTICES

PRAYING THE GOSPELS THROUGH ADVENT: Parishioners in the City Pastoral Region and across the Diocese are invited to connect and pray with each other from your own home. God speaks to us through the words of the Gospel and through artist's images of the Gospel message. Each Wednesday 5—5.45pm. You and your friends are welcome to join via the internet:

<https://mncatholic.zoom.us/j/92777151360>

Password: Prayer

BOOK CLUB meets at 6pm on Sunday 3 January to share our thoughts on the book, *The Thursday Murder Club*, by Richard Osman.

If you would like to participate in book club meetings, please send an email to the Regional Office, newcparish@mn.catholic.org.au

CAROLS ACROSS THE HUNTER is a streaming event presented by Rhema FM. View on Facebook, Youtube or www.CarolsAcrossTheHunter.com.au beginning at **6pm on Saturday 19 December.**

The Sacred Heart Cathedral Choir will be performing as well as the newly formed **Sacred Heart Schola Cantorum. Don't miss it!!**

St Vincent de Paul Society Members Needed!

Our Members are the backbone of St Vincent de Paul Society and live their faith in action by providing support and friendship through visitation in-home or within the community.

Along with visitation, Members will also have the opportunity to be a part of a variety of activities such as Mini Vinnies with local schools or Social Justice campaigns

In the 2019-2020 Financial Year, the dedicated Members of the St Vincent de Paul Maitland Newcastle Diocese were responsible for assisting approximately 7500 people within the community.

Our Conferences provide a service in most regions within the Diocese and are currently seeking individuals to become Members who are passionate about providing a hand up to those that are disadvantaged.

If you can help in any way for any amount of time that suits you, please call Sarah Kemp on 0249221801 or email on: sarah.kemp@vinnies.org.au to discuss how you can make a difference.

COVID-19-RELATED INFORMATION

Maximum Number of Persons in Cathedral

Under the current Public Health Order, the limit on the number of persons who can be present in a church is now calculated by allowing 2 square metres per person within the building (with no upper limit).

In the Cathedral, that limit is **221 persons**.

The limit applies to all Masses and other liturgical celebrations.

Provision of Contact Details

The Public Health Order requires the collection of contact details for those who attend any liturgical celebration in a church (e.g. Mass, weddings, funerals, Baptisms, etc.).

Every person must provide their contact details or have them provided by someone else (i.e. a parent for a child, a wife for a husband, etc.).

The contact details that are required are defined as a) name, b) phone number or email address, and c) the time of arrival.

NB: It is important that you write your FULL name, and print clearly so that it can be easily read by someone from outside the Parish (if necessary).

A Contact Details Form will be provided at the door to permit the collection of these details. It is also possible to use your mobile phone with either the Service NSW QR Code or the third-party QR Code which are accessible via the posters at the doors.

General Requirements

While in the Cathedral, you must observe physical distancing, refrain from physical acts of devotion, avoid unnecessary contact with other parishioners, and not gather with others unnecessarily.

We ask those who are particularly at risk – the elderly, those with compromised health, those who are sick – to refrain from returning to Mass for the sake of their own health. The dispensation from the obligation to attend Sunday Mass given by the Bishop remains in place in these circumstances.

PARISH OFFICE CHRISTMAS CLOSURE

The Parish Office will close at 5pm on 24 December and reopen at 9am on 4 January 2021. Phone calls to the Office will be checked regularly during the closure, and emails to the Parish email address will also be monitored.

We wish all a Happy, Holy and Safe Christmas and a bright beginning to 2021.

REACHING BEYOND 2020



People of all trades and professions are being requested by communities abroad seeking to build the capacity of their organisations and the skills of their people. Restrictions this year have made communities' needs acute, but your assistance will help to develop self-reliance and sustainable solutions to poverty. Palms Australia will provide you with thorough preparation to ensure your readiness as travel resumes, and support on assignment.

See www.palms.org.au, email palms@palms.org.au, or talk to Roger on 0431 995 058.

CHRISTIAN FORMATION COURSE 2021

The Christian Formation Course (CFC) is a face-to-face learning experience that allows participants to explore their life's journey and their faith within the Catholic Tradition. This one-year course introduces participants to scripture, theology, church history, sacramental life, and liturgy. The course runs across twelve months and comprises of eight units. Commencing on Tuesday February 2, 2021, no prerequisite formation or qualification is required to enrol. All who complete the Course are awarded a diocesan Certificate in Christian Formation.

Bishop Bill writes:

The Christian Formation Course has been a very great contributor to Catholic life in this diocese. It is based on adult learning methods that involve the participants in on-going dialogue and engagement with the material and the staff. It is my hope that many, many people will take this course. I further hope that it will be just the beginning of their living more informed and engaged Christ lives.

To enrol in the Christian Formation Course in 2021:
<https://www.mn.catholic.org.au/church-mission/catholic-life/adult-faith-formation/christian-formation-course/>

CARITAS GLOBAL GIFTS

Looking for meaningful Christmas presents? Give a Global Gift. These cards will bring hope and joy to the world's most vulnerable and smiles to your loved ones.

<https://globalgifts.org.au/#buy>

SPIRIT HOVERING

by Fr Michael Tate

Franco Zeffirelli was a great film director. In his film 'Jesus of Nazareth', he depicted the Annunciation in this way.

Mary is asleep at night. A gust of wind opens a window. Mary, startled and a little afraid, gets up and prays. As she prays we see her face change and her body bend over. With tears in her eyes, Mary looks up through the window at the moonlit sky and simply says 'Yes'. The swirling wind dies down at once.

That is beautiful imagery, trying to portray this extraordinary creative act in human affairs – in the life of this young woman.

How can one portray it? Zeffirelli takes the Jewish tradition of the Holy Spirit as the Divine Wind. The Hebrew word we translate as Spirit can just as well be translated breath or wind. In fact the old term 'Holy Ghost' is an unfortunate morphing of the English 'Holy Gust'. So Zeffirelli uses the wind to symbolise the presence of the Holy Spirit.

St Luke's account of the Annunciation also draws on the Jewish tradition. Let us listen to the first lines of the Jewish scriptures and then hear how Mary discerned what was happening with her.

'In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.
Now the earth was a formless void.
There was darkness over the deep,
and God's spirit hovered over the water.
God said "Let there be light",
and there was light.'

What is Mary depicted as hearing in the depths of her soul? It echoes the passage from Genesis:

'The Holy Spirit will come upon you
and the power of the Most High
will cover you with its shadow.'

Once again, the Holy Spirit hovers, this time over a young Jewish woman, and the most stupendously creative act in human history will take place. With her consent, God assumes human nature to be gradually enfleshed, embodied in Mary's womb.

How are we to respond to such a gospel? First, as a community.

Have you noticed that when we come together for the celebration of Mass, after the Holy, Holy, Holy the priest prays:

'And so, Father, we bring you these gifts. We ask you

to make them holy by the power of your Spirit.'

As he does so, the priest extends his hands so that they *hover* over the gifts of bread and wine. The symbolism is obvious. It alerts us to the fact that stupendous Divine creativity is about to transform material creation. With the words of consecration, what was simply bread and wine becomes the real presence of Our Risen Lord, Jesus Christ.

And individually, how can we respond to this gospel in our lives?

Mary knew her Jewish scriptures. A naturally bewildered young woman was able to respond to God's will because she understood the imagery and symbolism of the Genesis story.

So, we need to get to know the scriptures more intimately so that we will have the language skills to converse with God. God needs conversation partners in order to enter into human history and change the way things would otherwise pan out.

We need to read the gospels with all their Jewishness so that we can understand when God attempts to speak to our souls.

And during the next few days before Christmas let us be alert. To use Zeffirelli's imagery, if we hear the wind blowing, let us resist the urge to get up and close the window. Let it rattle a bit, however disconcerting.

Since our baptisms, the Divine Wind, the Holy Gust, the Holy Spirit, has been hovering over each of us wanting to do great things. It may be that the time has come for a Marian response: 'Be it done unto me according to your word.'

© Fr Michael Tate www.liturgyhelp.com.au



IN YOUR CHARITY, PLEASE PRAY FOR:

RECENTLY DECEASED: Joseph Timbs, Rocco Di Rienzo

ANNIVERSARIES: Kelvin O'Neill, Stephen Howard, James (Jim) Bridges, Mary & George Bridges; George, Ursula, Maxie & Pat Bridges, Mary Lou Alexander,

SICK: Baby Oliver Robens, Beth Wooden, Kate Newsome.

Names may be placed here by contacting the Office. For more information, please refer to the Policy Document on the Cathedral website—visit www.sacredhearthatilton.org.au/resources

CHRISTMAS @ SACRED HEART

The schedule of Christmas Masses in the Cathedral for 2020 will be:

Christmas Eve	5pm *
	7pm (music by <i>Schola Cantorum</i>)
	10pm (<i>Polish</i>)
Christmas Day	Midnight *
	(carol singing from 11:30pm)
	7.30am
	9.30am *
	11.30am (<i>Polish</i>)

The Masses marked with an * will be live-streamed so that those unable to attend can join the worshipping assembly in a virtual fashion.

Because of the restrictions on the number of persons who can be in the Cathedral, each of the Christmas Masses (apart from the two Polish language Masses) will need to be 'ticketed', i.e. you will need to register in advance in order to attend.

Registration for Christmas Masses is available via the Eventbrite website. You can access the Eventbrite site via a button on the front page of the Cathedral website. For those without internet access, please contact Fr Andrew or the Regional Office (4979 1101) who will assist you.

Please note that registrations will close at 5pm on Wednesday 23 December. After that time, no further registrations will be possible.

Please also note, no entry to the Cathedral will be possible without the presentation of a ticket.

I realise that the additional requirements necessary to attend Christmas Masses this year are burdensome, and I truly wish we had another option. We don't, however, and so I ask for your patience and cooperation as we seek to celebrate the Incarnation of Jesus Christ.

Fr Andrew

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS

Feast of the Holy Family

Genesis 15:1-6, 21:1-3 or Sirach 3:2-6, 12-14
Hebrews 11:8, 11-12, 17-19 or Colossians 3:12-21
Luke 2:22-40

Weekday and Sunday readings can be found at
www.usccb.org

NOVENA TO OUR LADY OF PERPETUAL HELP

The Novena to Our Lady of Perpetual Help will resume on **Saturday, 2 January 2021.**

DIOCESAN SYNOD – SESSIONS 2 AND 3

The next sessions of the Diocesan Synod will be Session Two- Discernment to be held on the 22 May 2021 and Session Three – Implementation to be held on the 20 November 2021.

Soon parishes will be asked to nominate delegates to receive an invitation from Bishop Bill to attend Sessions Two and Three. Applications for Delegates close on 4 January 2021.

For more information, visit the newly created Synod website—www.domnsynod.com.au

ADVENTUS: JOINING A HOPE THAT HAS COME

View the 35 minute film **Adventus** and reflect on the messages from theologians and practitioners who have offered their thoughts on Advent, a season of being remade in the dark. Film voices include: Walter Brueggemann, Kelly Brown Douglas, Stanley Hauerwas, Rudy Rasmus, Parker Palmer, Fleming Rutledge, Nadia Bolz-Weber, Ilia Delio, Emilie Townes, James Alison, Richard Rohr, Marlon Hall, Wm Paul Young, Brené Brown, and Jürgen Moltmann.

When: Wednesday 23 December - 1.30pm - 2.30pm

To register for this free event go to: <https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/adventus-tickets-130157742311> or go to Adult Faith Formation page on the Diocesan website: <https://www.mn.catholic.org.au/church-mission/catholic-life/adult-faith-formation/>

A reflection guide and Zoom link will be emailed to you before the viewing.

AdVent flection

Visit the Cathedral (www.sacredhearthamilton.org.au) or Parish (www.newcastlecatholic.org.au) and sign up at the bottom of the homepage to receive a daily 'Advent Vflection' straight to your email Inbox.

Every morning of Advent, Fr Andrew will post a fresh video reflection as part of the journey through Advent towards the celebration of Christmas.

TODAY'S LITURGY

We are allowed to sing. While masks are recommended, they are not mandatory. Try some gentle singing this week as we continue to limber up for Christmas.

GATHERING CHANT:

Sung by Cantor: Skies, let the Just One come forth like the dew, let him descend from the clouds like the rain. The earth will open up and give birth to our Saviour.

SPOKEN by all: The heavens declare the glory of God, and the firmament proclaims the work of His hand. Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end, Amen

LITURGY OF THE WORD

FIRST READING: 2 Samuel 7:1-5, 8-12, 14,16

The kingdom of David will be established for ever in the sight of the Lord.

We pause for silent reflection.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

Forever I will sing the goodness of the Lord

I will sing forever of your mercies, O Lord;
through all ages my mouth will proclaim your fidelity.
I have declared your mercy is established forever;
your fidelity stands firm as the heavens.

“With my chosen one I have made a covenant;
I have sworn to David my servant:
I will establish your descendants forever,
and set up your throne through all ages.”

“He will call out to me, ‘You are my father,
my God, the rock of my salvation.’
I will keep my faithful love for him always;
with him my covenant shall last.”

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SECOND READING: Romans 16:25-27

The mystery kept secret for endless ages is now revealed.

We pause for silent reflection.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

A virgin will give birth to a Son
His name will be Emmanuel: God with us.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

GOSPEL: Luke 1:26-38

You will conceive and bear a son.

We pause for silent reflection.

HOMILY

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, 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.

APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God,
the Father Almighty,
Creator of Heaven and earth;
and in Jesus Christ, His only Son Our Lord,
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 shall 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.

LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

PREPARATION OF THE GIFTS:

Beyond the Moon and Stars Dan Schutte

SPOKEN BY ALL:

***Beyond the moon and stars, as deep as night,
So great our hunger, Lord, to see your light.
The sparrow finds her home beneath your wing,
So may we come to rest where angels sing.***

1. Our eyes have longed to see your loving face, To live within your courts for all our days.
2. Your roads have led us, Lord, 'cross desert sand. We place our hopes and dreams within your hand.
3. Upon our darkness, Lord, a light has shone. You came to dwell with us in flesh and bone.

4. When life's great journey ends, and day is done,
Then may our eyes behold your Holy One.

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MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION

We proclaim your death O Lord and profess your resurrection, until you come again.

COMMUNION HYMNS:

THE ANGEL GABRIEL

The angel Gabriel from heaven came,
His wings as drifted snow, his eyes as flame:
"All hail" said he, "Thou lowly maiden Mary,
Most highly favored lady." Gloria!

"For known a blessed mother thou shalt be,
All generations laud and honor thee;
Thy son shall be Emmanuel, by seers foretold,
Most highly favored lady." Gloria!

Then gentle Mary meekly bowed her head;
"To me be as it pleaseth God," she said.
"My soul shall laud and magnify His holy name."
Most highly favored lady." Gloria!

Of her, Emmanuel, the Christ, was born
In Bethlehem all on a Christmas morn,
And Christian folk through-out the world will ever say:
"Most highly favored lady." Gloria!

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CREATOR OF THE STARS OF NIGHT Gerard Furrell

Creator of the stars of night,
your people's everlasting light,
O Christ, Redeemer of us all,
we pray you hear us when we call.

In sorrow that the ancient curse
should doom to death a universe,
you came, O Savior, to set free
your own in glorious liberty.

When this old world drew on toward night,
you came; but not in splendor bright,
not as a monarch, but the child
of Mary, blameless mother mild.

At your great Name, O Jesus, now
all knees must bend, all hearts must bow;
all things on earth with one accord,
like those in heaven, shall call you Lord.

Text: Conditor alme siderum. Latin 9th C. tr The Hymnal 1982 ©1985.
The Church Pension Fund. Tune: CONDITOR ALME SIDERUM LM; acc by
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RECESSIONAL: HANDMAID OF HEAVEN Dan Schutte

The Lord sent an angel to lowly Galilee
To tell virgin Mary of wonders that would be:

***Ave! Ave! Ave Maria!
Ave! Ave! Ave Maria!***

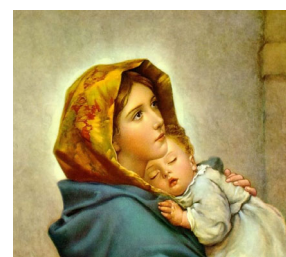
Dear handmaid of heaven, the Lord is with you,
Most blessed of women with heart ever true.

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NEW YEAR'S DAY @ SACRED HEART

New Year's Day, which is also celebrated by the Church as the Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God, will be celebrated with Mass at 9.30am.

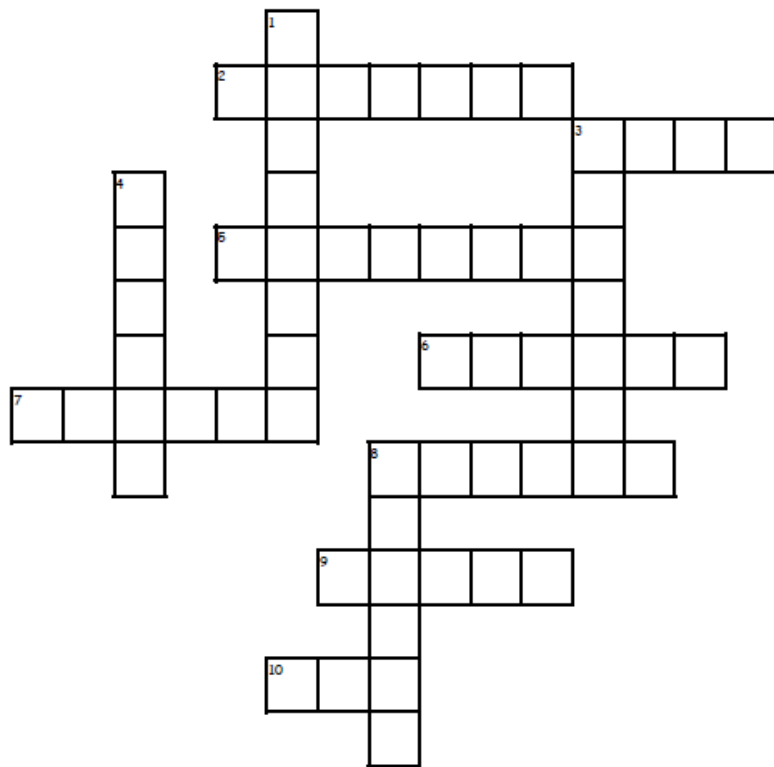
Please note that the usual celebration of Reconciliation, Adoration and Midday Mass will **not** take place on New Year's Day.



CROSSWORD

Jesus Christ the Good News

Rom 16:25-27
Ps 47:1-2, 7-8, R. v.8
Lk 1:26-38



Across

- 2: the angel sent by God to the town of Nazareth
- 3: the angel had a message for this person
- 5: people who spoke of the arrival of the Messiah
- 6: scared, frightened
- 7: Mary was engaged to this man
- 8: the message was kept _____ for a long time
- 9: God commanded his prophets to _____ about the good news
- 10: the opposite of daughter

Down

- 1: the town where Mary lived
- 3: information that is passed on to someone else
- 4: to speak highly of
- 8: to have strength is to be this

SENIOR WORDSEARCH

Jesus Christ the Good News

Rom 16:25-27
Ps 47:1-2, 7-8, R. v.8
Lk 1:26-38

I W E T M O C H I T A R T J I H E
 Q Z V I F C P E S I A R P M N G M
 B X B L M L B M M J A E O F A K C
 L A E J O S E P H Z Y N W S F O T
 M F T P P X S S B L H X S Q R M E
 S A I M Z V P R O P H E T S A E R
 B C R N C X U V R B M E S W I J C
 U Z W K F W Y Z X N D S C O D Z E
 S I Q D Q R C E D D H E V Q N S S
 C T K Q A W T O K D A A C K G S E
 H U R M A F W M X Y L P U L A P J
 X F P O P U U U R P G G Q G B X P
 O I K R N N A Z A R E T H W R R W
 B V Q O H G W U T H W R C W I W C
 H Y H X T T P G W J R T F I E U K
 W C R K X P Z Y H K I M W L L R W

Try to find these words:

- afraid
- Gabriel
- Joseph
- Mary
- message
- Nazareth
- praise
- prophets
- secret
- son
- strong
- write