

Inner Newcastle Parish: Sacred Heart Cathedral, Newcastle West; St Joseph's Church, The Junction; St Mary, Star of the Sea Church, Newcastle; Immaculate Heart of Mary Church, Tighes Hill; St Laurence O'Toole Church, Broadmeadow. Mayfield Parish: Christ the King, Mayfield West. Stockton Parish: St Peter-in-Chains, Stockton.

SUNDAY 11TH APRIL 2021 SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER, YEAR B

Our Clergy

Fr Andrew Doohan
Fr Peter Street
Fr Peter Thoai
Fr Matthew Muller
Fr John Vo
Deacon Lawrence Caelli

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Other Contacts

Lingard Hospital Team: Contact the Parish Office **Mercy Pastoral Team**: Sr Patricia Whitten rsm

(02) 4979 1116

St Joseph's Pastoral Team: Contact the Parish Office

Parish Bulletin: Prayer requests and items for the Bulletin should be received at the Parish Office by 5pm on Wednesdays.



DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY

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.

THE PARISH DIARY...(for the week ahead)

2nd Week of Easter, Year B

Monday—12th April

8:15am Mass @ The Cathedral

Tuesday—13th April

8:15am Mass @ The Cathedral

8:30am Mass @ Stockton

9:30am Mass @ The Junction

Wednesday—14th April

8:15am Mass @ The Cathedral

9:00am Mass @ Mayfield West

9:15am Mass @ Tighes Hill

9:30am Mass @ The Junction

Thursday – 15th April

8:15am Mass @ The Cathedral

8:30am Mass @ Stockton

9:30am Mass @ The Junction

Friday-16th April

9:15am Mass @ Tighes Hill

10:15am Mass @ The Junction

11am Exposition @ The Cathedral (until 12pm)

11am Reconciliation @ The Cathedral (until

12pm)

12:05pm Mass @ The Cathedral

Saturday—17th April

9.20am Mass @ The Cathedral followed by

Novena to Our Lady of Perpetual Help @

The Cathedral (followed by Reconciliation

5:30pm Mass @ The Cathedral

6:00pm Vigil Mass @ Mayfield West

Sunday—18th April

3rd Sunday of Easter

7:30am Mass @ St Mary's

8am Mass @ Tighes Hill

9am Mass @ The Junction

9:00am Mass @ Stockton

9:30am Mass @ The Cathedral

Live streamed via the Diocesan website:

www.mn.catholic.org.au/ places/livestream/

11:00am Italian Mass @ The Junction

11:30am Polish Mass @ The Cathedral

5pm Mass @ The Cathedral

5:30pm Vietnamese Mass @ Mayfield West



CHAPLET OF DIVINE MERCY

In the Jubilee Year 2000, Pope John Paul II proclaimed that from that year forward, the Second Sunday of Easter would be celebrated as Divine Mercy Sunday. This was proclaimed at the Canonization Mass of St. Faustina Kawalska, who worked throughout her life to make all aware of the merciful love of God. St. Faustina (1905–1938) was born and raised in Poland. Following a vocation to religious life, she was accepted by the Congregation of the Sisters of Our Lady of Mercy. As a member of the Congregation, she worked as a cook, gardener, and porter. In her spiritual life, her contemplation on the Mercy of God led her to develop a childlike trust in God and deep love for her neighbor.

In her years in the convent, St. Faustina heard a call from God to make God's mercy known to the world so that the world may more fully receive God's healing grace. St. Faustina promoted the Chaplet of Divine Mercy which consists of the recitation of prayers to the Eternal Father with the use of the rosary for the sake of Christ's sorrowful passion.

The Chaplet is prayed as follows:

- 1. Begin with the Sign of the Cross, one Our Father, one Hail Mary, and the Apostles' Creed.
- 2. On the Our Father beads, recite the following:

"Eternal Father, I offer you the Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity of your dearly beloved Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, in atonement for our sins and those of the whole world."

3. On the ten Hail Mary beads, say the following:

"For the sake of His sorrowful Passion, have mercy on us and on the whole world."

- 4. Repeat step two and three for all five decades.
- 5. Conclude by reciting three times:

"Holy God, Holy Mighty One, Holy Immortal One, have mercy on us and on the whole world."

When celebrating Divine Mercy Sunday, the faithful are called to reflect more personally on the graces won through the life, death, and Resurrection of Jesus Christ. In this way their hearts may be more fully aware of the mercy of God for them personally and for the sake of the world.

SOCIAL JUSTICE ART WORKSHOP **EXHIBITION**

The Social Justice 2020-2021 Statement, To Live Life to the Full: Mental health in Australia today, provides the opportunity to better understand mental illness and how as social beings we need the bonds of family, friends and the broader community to celebrate the joys and hopes of life.

Artists are invited to create a work based on the themes found in the Social Justice Statement. Works can be 2 or 3 dimensional no larger than 1 x 1 metres. Name, title of work, school, parish and phone number clearly labelled on the back. This information plus a 150 word (maximum) artist statement must accompany the work and be emailed through to rose.mcallister@mn.catholic.org.au before June 19.

Please join us for a day of prayer, reflection and art making. \$10 cost covers all art materials used on the day. Participants will need to bring their own lunch on the day. Artworks will become part of the Social Justice art exhibition/competition held on July 17 at the Veritas Centre Mayfield.

Dates:

Wednesday April 28, 9.30am-2.30pm: St Columban's Hall, Church St, Mayfield

Thursday April 29, 9.30am-2.30pm: Catholic Parish Office, Unit 5/16 Cambridge St, Singleton

Friday April 30, 9.30am-2.30pm: Community Centre St Joseph's Parish Kilaben Bay, 140 Wangi Rd, Toronto Monday May 3, 9.30am-2.30pm: Holy Name of Jesus

Parish, 33 Lake St, Forster

To register to go:https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/ social-justice-art-workshop-tickets-145391039513 For more information contact: rose.mcallister@mn.catholic.org.au

LECTIO DIVINA VIA ZOOM

View, Chew, and Chat continues to meet via Zoom.



During the Easter Season, we will employ the practice of Lectio Divina to prayerfully reflect on the Gospel of the coming Sunday.

"Lectio Divina", a Latin term, means "divine reading" and describes a way of reading the Scriptures whereby we

gradually let go of our own agenda and open ourselves to what God wants to say to us. We meet via Zoom each Wednesday evening from 7pm.

To participate, please email newcparish@mn.catholic.org.au

REFLECTION DAY WITH BISHOP BILL

Bishop Bill is offering reflection days around the Diocese during April and May. The two closest to our parish are:

Thursday April 15: St Mary Immaculate, Charlestown

Reflection 2:30-4pm; Mass 5-5:30pm

Tuesday May 4: Cathedral House, 841 Hunter St, Newcastle West.

Reflection 2:30-4pm

The day is offered in other locations around the Diocese. If you'd like more information about the other times and places, please contact the Bishop's Office.

THE BREAKFAST CONVERSATION

BYO breakfast!!

(formerly the Men's Breakfast Group)

Our April COVID-safe gathering will be held at the Newcastle Mens Shed shopfront:

Wayne Grant - Secretary of The What? Newcastle Mens Shed, will tell us about recent changes and expansion plans. We will meet in their workshop / shop front at Hamilton.

Monday 19th April Commencing at: 7.15am We continue to be Covid Safe, so please BYO coffee and eats.

Where? **99 Beaumont St. Hamilton** alongside Westpac Bank.

Why? Fellowship and information

Who? **All** welcome

Enquires? Neil Jones 0410 572579

CHRISTIAN MEDITATION:

Living Waters, 34 Kenrick St., The Junction:

Wednesday, 7.30 am Friday, 11.00 am Monday, 6.30 pm

CONTACT: annecuskelly@hotmail.com or

0407 436 808

BOOK CLUB

Sunday, 11th April @6pm: Bookclub meets to discuss When the Apricots Bloom by Gina Wilkinson. If you would like to participate in book club meetings, please email newcparish@mn.catholic.org.au

Reflection by Richard Leonard SJ

The earliest Christian community focused strongly on the wounds of the Risen Lord for two reasons: to affirm the fact that Christ, now raised from the dead was the same person who had lived with them; and to make sense of the physical wounds being inflicted on them for Christ's sake.

The story of Thomas, even with its mystical details, counters a magical notion of what the resurrection is about. Jesus bears the marks of his torture and death. His glorified body, though different, is connected to how the disciples knew and loved him. They can recognise him through his words and his wounds.

We know the community of Ephesus, for which this Gospel is written, was experiencing great persecution. Is it any wonder, one generation after the earliest disciples, that the sign of Christ's Risen presence are his marks of suffering?

Our own world continues to be intrigued by manifestations of Jesus' wounds. Over recent years films like *Stigmata*, *Dogma*, *Agnes of God* and even the appalling *Daredevil* give a hysterical and cynical prominence to the stigmata. There are regular 'believe it or not' documentaries that usually follow suit. Even some pilgrims flocked to Padre Pio's monastery in the south of Italy to see if his hands really bled, or if his wounds really wept. This desire to see outward signs of inner faith is a long way short of Jesus telling us today, 'Happy are those who believe without seeing.'

Our day-to-day lives should be the clearest manifestation of the cross and resurrection of Christ.

It seems, however, that words and wounds still make a claim on us today. You and I know that we don't have to go to a stigmatic to see Christian battle wounds. We carry within us the death of the Lord. We all have our wounds. And we also know that, for many of us, it is precisely when we are wounded most deeply by life, that our doubts in the presence of God can be greatest.

The Easter story is not that we should be ashamed of this, or pretend it doesn't happen. Today's Gospel reminds us that it is into this chaos that Christ comes with words of peace, with empathy from the one who was wounded for our sake and with the mission to forgive as we are forgiven.

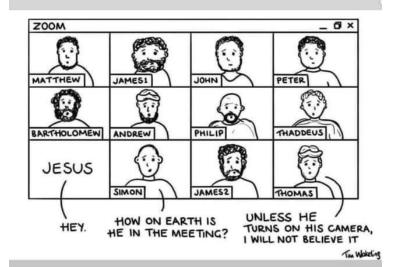
Years ago I remember struggling with some personal issues during a retreat. One day, when I felt lowest about myself, the retreat director, adapting today's psalm, 117, said to me, 'you realise that the stone rejected by the builder becomes the corner stone'. By

this he meant that often God takes that part of ourselves we don't like, forgives it, heals it, and uses it most powerfully to demonstrate that the pattern of the life, death and resurrection of Christ continues in all believers who bear his name and carry his wounds.

And that's what happened to Thomas. Christ took his fears, doubts and disbelief and transformed them into a powerful Christian witness that has sustained generations of us who struggle with life and faith.

So at this Easter Eucharist we are offered the same opportunity to discover that the stone rejected within us, or among us, is the one which God wants to use as the cornerstone. When we see this happening, when we see God taking the part of us we consider most unlovable and using it for good, then we want to cry out with the psalmist, 'This is the work of the Lord, a marvel in our eyes.'

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PRAYER TO ST JOSEPH

O God, in your ineffable providence you were pleased to choose Blessed Joseph to be the spouse of your most holy Mother, grant, we beg you, that we may be worthy to have him for our intercessor in heaven whom on earth we venerate as our Protector. You who live and reign forever and ever. Amen.

As part of the Year of St Joseph, a plenary indulgence is being granted according to the usual conditions of confession, communion, and prayer for the Pope's intentions to those who recite the Litany of St Joseph for the persecuted Church and for Christians suffering all forms of persecution.

AROUND THE CHURCHES:

ST LAURENCE O'TOOLE, BROADMEADOW:

Work begins on Thursday 8th April to investigate the structural integrity of the gallery after termite damage. This investigation involves asbestos removal and the church will be closed to the public while works are happening. This is particularly important during the early asbestos removal stage from the 8th onwards. Under no circumstances should the church be accessed. The Italian community have arranged the use of St Joseph's at the Junction for Masses while these works are going on: Sundays at 11am.

TIGHES HILL:

Investigations into the leaking roof at Tighes Hill are under way and we will keep you updated.

ST PETER IN CHAINS, STOCKTON:

Building works are moving along nicely despite all of the inclement weather. Audio visual works are now complete.

CHRIST THE KING, MAYFIELD WEST:

Audio visual works are now complete.

ST JOSEPH'S, THE JUNCTION

St Joseph's Church is now open weekdays from 9am until 4pm. Use the side entrance, near the driveway.

All Organs has loaned St Joseph's Church a digital pipe organ until after Anzac Day. The Parish extends our thanks to Jim Clinch and All Organs for this generous loan.

IN YOUR CHARITY, PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS:

RECENTLY DECEASED: Beryl Davies, Tadeusz Pozniak

ANNIVERSARIES: Eileen Bleakley, Faye Martin, Catherine Walsh, Charlie Walsh, Monica Gebbie

SICK: Carlo Rossi, Tom Towers

SPECIAL INTENTIONS: Val Donnelly, Sr Marjorie

McLachlan

Names may be placed here by contacting the Parish Office. Please refer to the Policy Document on the Parish website—visit www.newcastlecatholic.org.au/downloads.

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS:

Sunday 18th April 2021
3rd Sunday of Easter, Year B
Acts 3:13-15. 17-19,
1 John 2:1-5,
Luke 24:35-48

THE PARISH LUNCHEON

The Parish luncheon will be held on Monday 19th April at 12.30pm in the Victor Peters Suite. Please join friends for this lovely opportunity to be together socially. For more information, please contact Maureen - 0412 673151.

ANZAC DAY



The Merewether-Hamilton-Adamstown RSL Sub-Branch will not be conducting any of its Anzac Day Services this year. They usually

conduct services at Merewether Memorial Gates, Gregson Park Hamilton and the WWI Memorial Adamstown.

On meeting with the NSW Police Waratah Local Area Command, Newcastle City Council Events Program Manager and various communications from NSW Government, Department of Health, it was strongly recommended that they cancel Services again this year. Even though COVID restrictions are at the moment, less than they were, a decision had to be made early due to the large number of plans and strategic requirements necessary to be worked through.

The Sub-Branch is disappointed that they cannot hold this very significant service of Remembrance for our community. We hope that 2022 brings back our community Anzac Day Services and wellness to our country and the world.

The RSL Sub-Branch sends a message of thanks for all who support Ex-service and Serving men and women.

HAVE YOU THOUGHT?

THOSE WHO HAVE NOT SEEN

Jesus says to Thomas, 'You believe because you can see me. Happy are those who have not seen and yet believe.' That's us! Jesus' words in the gospel are meant for people like us living today. We are not in the position of Thomas and the other disciples who were able to see the risen Lord face to face and so convince themselves of his rising. The gospel recognises that to believe in the resurrection without that physical, personal encounter with Jesus is to be celebrated even more. Happy are we – blessed are we – who have not seen and yet still believe!

POPE FRANCIS' EASTER VIGIL HOMILY

Delivered April 3, 2021 at St. Peter's Basilica.

The women thought they would find a body to anoint; instead they found an empty tomb. They went to mourn the dead; instead they heard a proclamation of life

For this reason, the Gospel tells us, the women "were seized with trembling and amazement" (Mk 16:8). Full of fear, trembling, and full of amazement. A fear mingled with joy that took their hearts by surprise when they saw the great stone before the tomb rolled away and inside a young man in a white robe.

Wonder at hearing the words: "Do not be afraid! You seek Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has risen." And a message: "He is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him."

May we too accept this message, the message of Easter. Let us go to Galilee, where the Risen Lord has gone ahead of us. Yet what does it mean "to go to Galilee?"

To go to Galilee means, first, to begin anew. For the disciples it meant going back to the place where the Lord first sought them out and called them to follow him. The place of their first encounter and the place of their first love.

From that moment on, leaving their nets behind, they followed Jesus, listening to his preaching and witnessing the miracles he performed. Yet, though they were always with him, they did not fully understand him. Frequently they misunderstood his words and in the face of the cross they abandoned him and fled.

Even so, the Risen Lord once more appears as the one who goes ahead of them to Galilee. He precedes them. He stands before them and constantly calls them to follow him. He says to them: "Let us start over from where we began. Let us begin anew. I want you to be with me again, in spite of everything".

In this Galilee, we learn to be amazed by the Lord's infinite love, which opens new trails along the path of our defeats. He is like this, and he invites us to Galilee to be like this.

This is the first Easter message that I would offer you: it is always possible to begin anew, because there is always a new life that God can awaken in us in spite of all our failures.

Even from the rubble of our hearts — each of us knows, knows the rubble of his own heart. From the rubble of our hearts, God can create a work of art;

from the ruined remnants of our humanity, God can prepare a new history. He never ceases to go ahead of us: in the cross of suffering, desolation and death, and in the glory of a life that rises again, a history that changes, a hope that is reborn. In these dark months of the pandemic, let us listen to the Risen Lord as he invites us to begin anew and never lose hope.

Going to Galilee also means setting out on new paths. It means walking away from the tomb. The women were looking for Jesus in the tomb; they went to recall what they had experienced with him, which was now gone forever. They went to indulge in their grief.

There is a kind of faith that can become the memory of something once beautiful, now simply to be recalled. Many people — we too — experience such a "faith of memories," as if Jesus were someone from the past, an old friend from their youth who is now far distant, an event that took place long ago, when they attended catechism as a child. A faith made up of habits, things from the past, lovely childhood memories, but no longer a faith that moves me, or challenges me.

Going to Galilee, on the other hand, means realizing that faith, if it is to be alive, must get back on the road. It must daily renew the first steps of the journey, the amazement of the first encounter. And it must continue to trust, not thinking it already knows everything, but embracing the humility of those who let themselves be surprised by God's ways.

We are afraid of God's surprises; we are often afraid that God will surprise us. And today the Lord invites us to let ourselves be surprised.

Let us go to Galilee, then, to discover that God cannot be filed away among our childhood memories, but is alive and filled with surprises. Risen from the dead, Jesus never ceases to amaze us.

This, then, is the second message of Easter: faith is not an album of past memories; Jesus is not outdated. He is alive here and now. He walks beside you each day, in every situation you are experiencing, in every trial you have to endure, in your deepest hopes and dreams.

He opens new doors when you least expect it, he urges you not to indulge in nostalgia for the past or cynicism about the present. Even if you feel that all is lost, please let yourself be open to amazement at the newness Jesus brings: he will surely surprise you.

Going to Galilee also means going to the peripheries. Galilee was an outpost: the people living in that diverse and disparate region were those farthest from the ritual purity of Jerusalem. Yet that is where Jesus began his mission. There he brought his message to those struggling to live from day to day, proclaiming this message to the excluded, the vulnerable and the poor. There he brought the face and presence of God, who tirelessly seeks out those who are discouraged or lost, who goes to the very peripheries of existence, since in his eyes no one is least, no one is excluded.

The Risen Lord is asking his disciples to go there even today. He asks us to go to Galilee, to this "real Galilee". It is the settings of daily life, the streets we travel every day, the corners of our cities. There the Lord goes ahead of us and makes himself present in the lives of those around us, those who share in our day, our home, our work, our difficulties and hopes.

In Galilee we learn that we can find the Risen One in the faces of our brothers and sisters, in the enthusiasm of those who dream and the resignation of those who are discouraged, in the smiles of those who rejoice and the tears of those who suffer, and above all in the poor and those on the fringes. We will be amazed how the greatness of God is revealed in littleness, how his beauty shines forth in the poor and simple.

And this is the third message of Easter: Jesus, the Risen Lord, loves us without limits and is there at every moment of our lives. Having made himself present in the heart of our world, he invites us to overcome barriers, banish prejudices and draw near to those around us every day in order to rediscover the grace of everyday life.

Let us recognize him here present in our Galilees, in everyday life. With him, life will change. For beyond all defeats, evil and violence, beyond all suffering and death, the Risen One lives and the Risen One guides history.

Sister, brother, if on this night you are experiencing an hour of darkness, a day that has not yet dawned, a light dimmed or a dream shattered, go open your heart with amazement to the message of Easter: "Do not be afraid, he has risen! He awaits you in Galilee".

Your expectations will not remain unfulfilled, your tears will be dried, your fears will be replaced by hope. For the Lord always goes ahead of you, he always walks before you. And, with Him, life always begins anew.

COVID-19-RELATED INFORMATION

Maximum Number of Persons in Churches

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.

In our Region, those limits are:

Sacred Heart Cathedral	221
St Mary's, Newcastle	108
St Joseph's, The Junction	200
Mary Immaculate, Tighes Hill	110
St Laurence O'Toole, Broadmeadow	110
St Peter-in-Chains, Stockton	140
Christ the King, Mayfield West	140

The limit applies to all Masses and other liturgical celebrations, such as weddings and funerals.

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.). The contact details for each and every individual—including children and infants—must be collected.

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

Attendees are able to use the Service NSW QR Code to provide their details—just like many other places—using the Service NSW app on your phone, or via a QR Code reader. A Contact Details Form will be provided at the door to permit the collection of these details.

General Requirements

The requirements regarding cleaning, observing physical distancing, etc. remain in place for the time being, as does the requirement to refrain from physical acts of devotion that involve touching or kissing icons or statues.

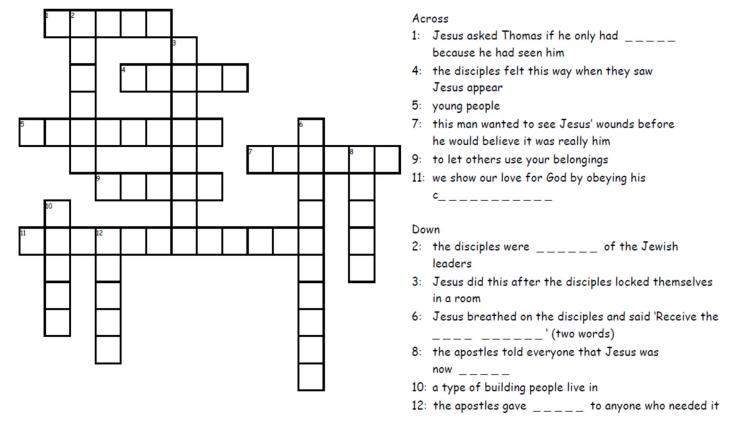
Liturgical rituals have been adapted, and will continue to be adapted, in order to ensure the health and safety of all parishioners and visitors to our churches. We ask those who are particularly at risk – the elderly, those with compromised health, those who are sick – to refrain from returning to Mass 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.

Requirements for Attending Mass

There is no need to register in advance to attend regular Mass. If you wish to return to Mass, you are at liberty to do so, though capacity limits will need to be observed at all Masses.

Acts 4:32-35 Ps 118:2-4. 22-24. R. v.1 1 Jn 5:1-3 Jn 20:19-29

Those who believe are called God's children



2nd Sunday of Easter, Year B [N02EASUB_2003_CW3.rtf]

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Those who believe are called God's children

Ps 118:2-4. 22-24. R. v.1 1 Jn 5:1-3 Jn 20:19-29

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G	Ν	Α	٧	Α	F	I	L	T	Q	L	Н	K	Ν	J	Α	Q
R	F	X	V	G	N	F	У	Е	Ν	0	Μ	J	R	Z	D	X

Try to find these words:

afraid
alive
appeared
children
commandments
faith
happy
Holy Spirit
house
money
share
Thomas