



Sacred Heart of Jesus Cathedral

DIOCESE OF MAITLAND-NEWCASTLE

St Benedict's 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 5TH NOVEMBER 2023 31ST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Our Clergy

Fr John Lovell
Fr Paul Chackanikunnel
Fr Raphael Madukwe
Deacon Kevin Gadd

Regional Office—St Benedict's Centre

25 Farquhar Street, The Junction
PO Box 6, The Junction 2291
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E: newcparish@mn.catholic.org.au
W: www.newcastlecatholic.org.au
W: www.sacredhearthatilton.org.au

Our Staff

Margaret Cox (*Reception & Administration*)
Monday, Tuesday, Friday
Anne Warren (*Business Manager Finance*)
Tuesday and Thursday
Dr Anne Millard (*Music, Liturgy, Sacraments, Bulletin*)

Promoters of Safeguarding

Fr John Lovell p: (02) 4979 1106
Gail Lovell P: (02) 4979 1101
Anne Millard P: (02) 4979 1252

Other Contacts

Bereavement Team: P: (02) 4979 1256
Mercy Pastoral Team: Sr Patricia Whitten rsm
0448463679
St Joseph's Pastoral Team: Contact the Parish Office



In the Old Testament, in Jesus' time and also during the medieval period and since then, there have been clerics who betrayed their calling, causing many to fall away from the faith. In today's Gospel, the Lord specially recognises this problem in the case of the scribes and Pharisees, but assures us that the truth and value of His teachings and graces, channelled through the Church, are not diminished by these things. *Fr John*

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

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)

31st Week of Ordinary Time, Year A

Monday—6th November

8:15am Mass @ The Cathedral

Tuesday—7th November

8:15am Mass @ The Cathedral

9:00am Mass @ Stockton ** Note new time

Wednesday—8th November

8:15am Mass @ The Cathedral

9:00am Mass @ Mayfield West

Thursday—9th November

Feast of the Dedication of the Lateran Basilica

8:15am Mass @ The Cathedral

9:00am Mass @ Stockton ** Note new time

6pm Choir Practice @ The Cathedral

Friday—10th November

Memorial of St Leo the Great

10:15am Mass @ The Junction ** Cancelled until November 24

11am Exposition, Adoration, and Reconciliation @ The Cathedral (until 12pm)

12:05pm Mass @ The Cathedral

Saturday—11th November

Memorial of St Martin of Tours

9.15am Mass @ The Cathedral followed by Novena to Our Lady of Perpetual Help (followed by Reconciliation)

5:30pm Vigil Mass @ Mayfield West

5:30pm Mass @ The Cathedral

5:30pm Mass @ The Junction

Sunday—12th November

32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

7:30am Mass @ St Mary's

8.00am Mass @ Tighes Hill

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

5.00pm Mass @ The Cathedral

6:00pm Vietnamese Mass @ Mayfield West

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS:

32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A

Wis 6:12-16

1 Thess 4:13-18

Matthew 25:1-13



PRAYER REQUESTS

RECENTLY DECEASED: Pat Belcher, Patricia Holz

ANNIVERSARIES: Melodie Kerr, Terry Sullivan, Gerard Nolan, Bernard Tobin, Sean Halpin, Brian Crittenden

SICK: Neil McGoldrick, Sr. Margaret Mary, OLN, Sr Rosemary Jackson rsj, Gerard Pearce, Harry Melville, Doreen Mason, Elaine Johnson, Christine Timbrell, Stewart McKinnon, Mark Caesar, Peter Kefecek, Carlo Rossi, Neil Thomas, Kathryn Gray, Emilie Tseronis

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.



BOOK CLUB

Sunday, 5th November @ 6:15pm: Bookclub meets to discuss *The Remarkable Mrs Reibey* by Grantlee Keiza. If you would like to participate in book club meetings, please email newcparish@mn.catholic.org.au



VIEW, CHEW, CHAT, AND LECTIO

View, Chew, and Chat continues to meet via Zoom. On two Wednesdays each month, we employ the practice of *Lectio Divina* to prayerfully reflect on the Gospel of the coming Sunday. At the end of this month we will begin the Diocesan Advent program.

The program for November is as follows:

8th November: Lectio Divina

15th November: Lectio Divina

22nd November: No meeting

29th November: First Meeting of the Advent Program

To participate, please email the parish office.

SAFEGUARDING

The Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle has an abiding commitment to promote the safety, welfare and well-being of children and vulnerable adults. Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility if you have any concerns for a child or vulnerable adult please contact the Office of Safeguarding: P 4979 1390, Echildprotection@mn.catholic.org.au or www.officeofsafeguarding.org.au

OUR BELOVED DEAD

We remember those in our Columbarium whose anniversaries occur in November.

David Bound	Desmond (Des) Ledlin
Monica Bound	Elva Letitia Murphy
Anne Veronica (Bonnie)	Helen Murray
Cook Moore	Peter Murray
Mary Ferry	Antonietta Rossetti
Gwen Fuge	Mary Synott
Frank Holmes	Pauline Wenman
Gwydir (Gwen) Holmes	

Eternal rest grant unto them and may perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace, Amen.

CHRISTIAN MEDITATION AT TIGHES HILL

This is non-denominational and everyone is very welcome. Please come.

WHEN: Monday afternoon 3.30 for 3.45 start

WHERE: Mercy Offices, 20 Union Street
(Next door to Mercy Services)

Off street parking available

The Meditation session begins with short guided relaxation exercises then we have a reading from Fr. John Main which leads into 20 minutes of silent meditation

75TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE NOVENA

Celebrate the 75th anniversary of the Novena on 2nd December 2023 @ 9:15am in Sacred Heart Cathedral.



TAIZE SERVICE



Sunday
5th November
Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic Church
Tighes Hill 5.00pm –
6pm *followed by a
shared supper.*

ACU PUBLIC LECTURES ON LITURGY

In the lead-up to the 60th anniversary of Sacrosanctum Concilium (the Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy of Vatican II, 4 Dec 1963), the ACU Centre for Liturgy is proud to present two exciting public lectures by international liturgical scholars:

Renowned liturgical scholar Professor Teresa Berger (Yale University Institute of Sacred Music and Yale Divinity School) will deliver a public lecture live via Zoom on Monday 6 November 2023, 10am AEDT on the topic of: "Liturgy's Imagined Futures: Beyond Vatican II's Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy" and

Acclaimed liturgical historian and theologian Rev Professor John F. Baldovin SJ (Boston College) who will deliver a FREE public lecture live in person on ACU's Melbourne Campus on Sunday December 3, 2023, 5pm-6.30pm AEDT on the topic of "A Liturgical Reform in Peril? Sacrosanctum Concilium sixty years on." Fr Baldovin's public lecture will also be livestreamed for those unable to attend in person.

Further information and registration details for both of these unique and valuable events, and a flyer if desired, can be found above and at the following link: <https://www.acu.edu.au/about-acu/institutes-academies-and-centres/acu-centre-for-liturgy/news-events-and-resources>

We look forward to welcoming you to these very special events marking this important milestone anniversary.

For more information please contact:
CentreforLiturgy@acu.edu.au.

FEEDBACK SURVEY - NATIONAL CHILD PROTECTION WEEK 2023

3-9 September this year marked the 33rd National Child Protection Week (NCPW), with the theme, 'Where we start matters'.

The Office of Safeguarding would like to thank everyone for their participation and support, and appreciate your feedback to this short survey that will assist with future planning:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/NCPW2023>

If you have any further feedback, stories or video from your activities, we would appreciate these being provided for reference to
childprotection@mn.catholic.org.au

REFLECTION

As we come to the end of the Church's year it's good for us to do some soul-searching. It has been a tough time for the Church and today's Gospel does not let us off the hook. In fact, it names one of the challenges before us. The last line of today's Gospel sums up what it has been like for many of us to hear about how some priests betrayed our trust, many victims were disbelieved and a few of our bishops have tried to cover up criminal actions. The exalted have been humbled and the humble exalted.

Jesus tells the crowds to listen to what the Pharisees teach, but not to follow their appalling example. The behaviour of the Pharisees has a name: hypocrisy, and it's one of the reasons we have received such a public pasting in recent years. Some of it has been justified. We have been seen to be a community more interested in our good name and public standing than in the damage done to those brothers and sisters of ours who were given into our care and became victims of physical and sexual abuse. We have been exposed as not practising what we preach.

The Church is in a bind here. We are not like other groups who can simply expel their worst members and move on. If we are going to be faithful to all of Jesus' teaching and the entire Christian tradition, then we have to comfort and heal the victims of abuse and call the perpetrators to the demands of the law, treatment and reconciliation. St Augustine summed this up in the 5th century when he said that forgiveness has two daughters: justice and compassion. We believe that the only way to healing is through forgiveness. True forgiveness never runs from the truth or minimises our sinfulness. It confronts the human condition with justice and compassion for *all* concerned.

The media may not like it, the public may be baying for blood and we might want an instant fix, so we put this tragic chapter behind us quickly, but forgiveness which is just and compassionate is the only way we can practise what we preach. It's going to take time.

On the other hand while some in our Catholic community have been exposed as hypocrites, some other truths remain consoling, or at least provide a context within which we can confront the sins of our fathers and mothers. For example, though there should never have been one case of child abuse in the Church, less than two percent of all Catholic priests have been convicted of this dreadful crime. An accusation is not a conviction and even priests and religious deserve the presumption and rights of innocence before they are proven guilty. Even though the public perception may be otherwise, nearly all

Catholic priests are faithful servants of the Gospel, doing what they can to practise what they preach.

Against a prevailing misconception, Church-run institutions are not the places where children are most at risk. Tragically, it's the family home. Over 80 percent of all child abuse occurs there. This does not excuse one case of abuse in the Church but it does suggest that, if our wider society really wants to tackle this problem, we are all going to have to start by looking in our own backyards.

Furthermore, against those who claim that the Church is hypocritical, they cannot take away from us the fact that our community, in the name of Christ, remains the largest provider of education, healthcare and welfare both here and overseas. This often-heroic work will rarely make it to the front pages of newspapers, but it's the backdrop against which we face up to the criminal actions of a few and those who try to protect them from public scrutiny.

Let's pray in this Eucharist that, as hard as this time has been for us all, we are converted again by the forgiving, just and compassionate example of Jesus who calls us to leave behind any trace of triumphalism and arrogance and recommit ourselves to what we should do best: the self-sacrificing love of one another and the world.

© Richard Leonard SJ

SCRIPTURAL CONTEXT

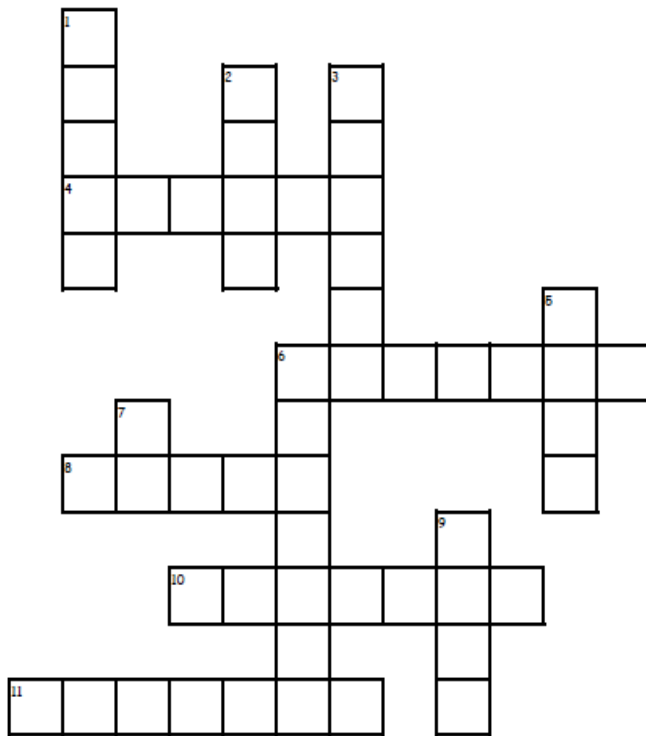
Laying down the Law

Throughout Matthew's gospel Jesus is portrayed as the new law-giver, the new Moses. The five-part structure of the gospel reflects the five books of law that make up the Torah. This week's gospel is the beginning of an extended passage of criticism against the Pharisees (all of Ch 23). The sustained criticism is about how the Pharisees have actually 'got in the way' and made it more difficult for people to come to know God. Jesus, as the new law-giver, tells the people to put aside the distractions of the Pharisees and to recognise that God alone is the source of what is right and wrong; that the Christ is the only teacher.

CROSSWORD

Show me your paths

Mal 2:8-10
Ps 25:4-5abc, 6, & 7cd, 8-9, R, v.4a
1 Thes 2:7-9, 13
Mt 23:1-12



Across

- 4: modest, lowly
- 6: the chosen one
- 8: the prophet who received the ten commandments
- 10: someone who teaches
- 11: a large feast

Down

- 1: when the moon and stars are seen in the sky
- 2: an infant
- 3: to make
- 5: the opposite of love
- 6: information that is passed on to someone else
- 7: Jesus said, "obey everything they teach you, but don't do as they ___"
- 9: the priests broke the promise L___ made to the Lord

SENIOR WORDSEARCH

Show me your paths

Mal 2:8-10
Ps 25:4-5abc, 6, & 7cd, 8-9, R, v.4a
1 Thes 2:7-9, 13
Mt 23:1-12

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

Try to find these words:

- baby
- banquet
- create
- do
- hate
- humble
- Levi
- message
- Messiah
- Moses
- night
- teacher

CHRISTIAN MEDITATION
THE CONTEMPLATIVE PATHWAY
WHERE IS MEDITATION LEADING US?

Meditators are always trying to go into greater silence. John Carroll will explore the benefits of this. There will also be a session on practical ideas for incorporating meditation into a busy life.

At St James School Hall, Vista Parade, Kotara
On Saturday November 11th, 9.00am to 12 noon.

Cost: \$10.00

Morning Tea Provided

RSVP: annecuskelly@hotmail.com or 0407 436 808



AMEN CAMINO 2024

The purpose of pilgrimage is journey. Camino has a long and established Christian history, it means 'road' or 'way'. A famous Camino is St James Way or Camino de Santiago in Spain. The first Christian movement in the 1st Century was known as 'The Way'.

The aMeN CaMiNo is a response to a desire to be in communion with each other and our sacred earth. It is an opportunity to pause from routine, immerse yourself in reflection, contemplation and to provide a moment of space for each person to be conscious of God's gift of Grace.

Amen is the word Christian's use to say 'Yes, we are on our way to God.' By joining us on the "aMeN CaMiNo", you are saying yes to something in your heart which is calling you.

The aMeN caMiNo takes place over five consecutive days. The pilgrimage starts at St John's Chapel, Maitland and concludes at the Sacred Heart Cathedral, Hamilton. Pilgrims will walk an average of 20km per day through the beautiful landscape of bush, beach and beyond which we are blessed to have in our backyard. We will also be holding a weekend experience. If you are interested and would like to know more, join us at this information session.

Date: 13 November Venue: Online Time: 7:00 – 8:00pm

To register go to: www.mn.catholic.org.au/church-mission/catholic-life/faith-formation/amen-camino/

gospel focus

Contrasts

Jesus' description of the Pharisees' behaviour offers a stark contrast to his own way of bringing about the Kingdom of God. By their actions, the Pharisees place burdens on the shoulders of others – burdens of guilt, shame, duty and punishment. Throughout his ministry, Jesus acted to lift such burdens from the shoulders of the downtrodden and marginalised. Jesus accuses the Pharisees of being motivated by drawing attention to themselves – the way they dress, the way they like to be addressed, even where they sit in the synagogues. In contrast, Jesus' ministry was typified by his humility and focus on others.

PASTORAL PLACEMENT PROGRAM

Applications are now open for the 2024 Pastoral Placement Program!

The Pastoral Placement Program offers participants an experience of ministry in the Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle. The purpose of this program is to enable participants the opportunity to experience different workplaces and ministries across the diocese. These 'on the ground' ministry work placements help participants explore the opportunities that are available to them to serve God and the local community of the Catholic Church in the Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle. The Pastoral Placement Program provides participants a year-long discernment journey, involving the see, judge, act philosophy, to make an informed choice about the possibility of their future ministry or career choices.

For more information and to learn to how to apply go to: www.mn.catholic.org.au/church-mission/catholic-life/pastoral-placement-program/

THE CHUCKLES

I'm not a fan of spring cleaning. Let's be honest, I'm not into summer, fall, or winter cleaning either.

How is a cat like a comma?

A cat has claws at the end of its paws; A comma is a pause at the end of a clause



MEET, LEARN, ACT

On Wednesday 8 November, there will be two significant gatherings at our Diocesan Hunter St Campus focusing on public action and working for the common good.

The first event is Taking Action and Public Discipleship, a gathering that brings together Christian participants from across denominations. The session will draw on the treasure of Christian reflection, tradition, history, Biblical exegesis, experience, and reason, and finish in prayer.

The second event is the Hunter Community Alliance Delegates Assembly, an opportunity to join hundreds of other leaders from across the Hunter's diversity in deliberation, listening, commitment and action. The goal of the evening is to build momentum towards the Founding Assembly in April 2024.

Taking Action & Public Discipleship

Wednesday 8 November

3pm for 3:30pm-5:30pm

Toohey Room, 841 Hunter St, Newcastle West

Register by emailing

Alyson.Segrott@mn.catholic.org.au

Hunter Community Alliance Delegates Assembly

Meet, Learn & Act!

Wednesday, 8 November

6pm for 6:15pm-8:15pm

Southern Cross Hall, 841 Hunter Street, Newcastle West

<https://events.humanitix.com/hca-delegates-assembly>

For more information, contact Brendon Mannyx

P:0429 426 892,

E: brendon.mannyx@mn.catholic.org.au

PINTS WITH A PURPOSE: FROM METH TO MERCY

Join us as we listen to Morgan Owens testimony on how she went from living a life of drugs, trouble, and new age practice to finding a life of peace, love, and mercy.

It will be a talk not to be missed, all are welcome!

The night is free with a beautiful menu of food available at your own cost.

When: Monday 6th November

Where: Sydney Junction Hotel

Time: 6pm

MEDITATION GROUPS AT LIVING WATERS CENTRE

LIVING WATERS CHRISTIAN MEDIATION CENTRE, 34 Kenrick Street, The Junction, offers meditation sessions on Wednesdays at 7.30am and Fridays at 11.00am – and has done so for the last 25 years, in which time many hundreds of people have taken up this prayer form. After meditation on Fridays Lectio Divina, a personal interaction with Sacred Scripture, is offered. Through both practices we open ourselves to the fullness of life; we come to know ourselves by knowing that we are known and loved by God. For more information: Carmel Moore rsj -0412122297 - or just come.

ADVENT 2023: WITH ANTICIPATION AND JOY

We are called during this holy time to wait with anticipation knowing the joys of what is to come with the arrival of Christ. With Anticipation and Joy is a Diocesan resource that invites all members of the community to gather a circle of people – family, friends, colleagues, ministry teams to reflect mystagogically on the Advent Gospels and associated artworks. This is an opportunity to encounter Christ where we are, to pay attention to what Christ reveals in the scripture and the living tradition of our faith, to share this, to connect it to our life now, and to be changed by it.

To access the resource, go to:

<https://www.mn.catholic.org.au/church-mission/catholic-life/liturgy/liturgical-year/>

INNER NEWCASTLE REGION (BROADMEADOW) CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON

Monday 27 November 12 pm at Souths Leagues Club, Llewellyn St, Merewether.

Please phone Gwen Haggerty 49 675010 so appropriate seating can be arranged. Bookings in by Saturday, 18 November.



BEQUESTS

To help our Catholic Pastoral Region of Parishes continue its important mission of proclaiming the Good News of Jesus, you might consider including us in your Will. You would just need to specify which parish or parishes you would like to help with your bequest.

TITLES AND BURDENS

There have been periods in the church's history where the burdens placed on the shoulders of people – particularly an exaggerated sense of guilt for certain sins – truly weighed people down, creating a terrible sense of unworthiness, leading to the living of distorted lives.

Our Lord makes it clear that leaders cannot evade responsibility for this by hiding behind honorific titles.

In the Gospels, we find the One who said: 'Come to me all you who toil and are burdened and I will *refresh you*. Take my yoke upon you *and you will find rest for your souls*. For my yoke is easy and my burden light.' (Matt 11:28-30)

If people don't find that the burden laid on them by Church leaders (who often long to be greeted obsequiously) leads to refreshment and rest for their souls, then it is right to question the burden, and to question the leaders who impose such burdens.

Perhaps we could pause for a moment to pray for Pope Francis whose favoured titles are simply: 'Bishop of Rome', 'Servant of the Servants of God'.

© Fr Michael Tate

POSITION VACANT – HOSPITAL CHAPLAIN JOHN HUNTER HOSPITAL

The Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle is looking to appoint a Catholic Hospital Chaplain to John Hunter Hospital. The purpose of this position is to provide Chaplaincy and Pastoral Care services to the patients, their families and staff at the John Hunter Hospital and other health facilities that exist on that site. The Catholic Chaplain provides spiritual and pastoral care and emotional support on behalf of the faith community.

For more information about this position please go to the Careers section on the diocesan website: www.mn.catholic.org.au/about/office/pastoral-ministries/ or contact Teresa Brierley on 4979 1157.

FOOD BASKET FOR THE NEEDY

If you would like to donate, any of the following types of non-perishable items would be most gratefully received: UHT milk, cereal, jam, vegemite, peanut butter, tinned veggies, fruit, soup, fish, meat, dried pasta, rice, pasta sauces, teabags, coffee, biscuits, crackers, custard, jelly, toothpaste, toothbrushes, soap, shampoo, conditioner (even the travel sized ones from hotels), deodorant.

OUR CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOLS

St Joseph's Primary School

Karen McGinlay (*Principal*)

Union Street, The Junction NSW 2291

P:(02) 4961 2827

W:www.merewether.catholic.edu.au

Holy Family Primary School

Ann Jackson (*Principal*)

Pell Street, Merewether NSW 2291

P:(02) 4963 3009

W:www.merewetherbeach.catholic.edu.au

St Columban's Primary School

Danielle Reed (*Principal*)

Church Street, Mayfield NSW 2304

P:(02) 4968 3315

W:www.mayfieldsc.catholic.edu.au

St Peter's Primary School

Mark Konik (*Acting Principal*)

Dunbar St, Stockton NSW 2295

P:(02) 4920 1736

W:www.stockton.catholic.edu.au

A MESSAGE FROM POPE FRANCIS

By Elise Harris

Pope Francis marked All Saints' Day Wednesday saying the saints are honored not because they were perfect or did everything right, but because they allowed God to touch their lives and fought hard against sin.

"The Solemnity of All Saints is 'our' feast: not because we are good, but because the holiness of God has touched our lives," the Pope said Nov. 1.

Saints, he said, "are not perfect models, but are people whose lives God has crossed," and can be compared with the stained glass windows of a church, "which allow light to enter in different shades of color."

The saints above all are our brothers and sisters "who have welcomed the light of God into their hearts and have passed it on to the world, each one according to their own 'tone'," he said, but stressed that no matter the "color" they give, "all of them are transparent."

"They have fought to take away the stains and darkness of sin, so as to let the gentle light of God pass through," he said, adding that "this is the purpose of life, even for us."

Elise Harris <https://www.catholicnewsagency.com>