



# 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 7TH APRIL 2024

### SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER, YEAR B

#### Our Clergy

Fr John Lovell  
Fr Paul Chackanikunnel  
Fr Anthony Coloma  
Fr Anil Kumar Kuchipudi  
Deacon Kevin Gadd

#### Regional Office—St Benedict's Centre

25 Farquhar Street, The Junction  
PO Box 6, The Junction 2291  
P: (02) 4979 1101 F: (02) 4962 4644  
E: [newcparish@mn.catholic.org.au](mailto:newcparish@mn.catholic.org.au)  
W: [www.newcastlecatholic.org.au](http://www.newcastlecatholic.org.au)  
W: [www.sacredhearthatilton.org.au](http://www.sacredhearthatilton.org.au)

#### Our Staff

Margaret Cox (*Reception & Administration*)  
*Monday, Tuesday, Friday*  
Anne Warren (*Business Manager*)  
*Tuesday and Thursday*  
Daloras Howes (*Administration*)  
Thelma Dickson (*Administration*)  
Elul Teclé (*Administration*)  
Dr Anne Millard (*Music, Liturgy, Sacraments*)

#### Promoters of Safeguarding

Fr John Lovell p: (02) 4979 1106  
Gail Lovell P: (02) 4979 1256  
Anne Millard P: (02) 4979 1252

#### DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY



#### THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

What we recognise from celebrating and reflecting upon our recent Holy Week liturgies, is that the Lord has done all the really tough redemptive work for us through His passion, death and resurrection. Our task now, is to take it to heart and share it with others in whatever ways we can - especially through acts of love and mercy.

Fr John

#### Other Contacts

**Bereavement Team:** Margaret Cox, Gail Lovell, Christopher Gregory, Margaret Beard, Margaret Newton, Anne Millard P: (02) 4979 1252

**Mercy Pastoral Team:** Sr Patricia Whitten rsm  
0448463679

**St Joseph's Pastoral Team:** Contact the Parish Office

*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 8th April

*Solemnity of The Annunciation of the Lord*

8:15am Mass @ The Cathedral

Tuesday 9th April

8:15am Mass @ The Cathedral

9:00am Mass @ Stockton

Wednesday 10th April

8:15am Mass @ The Cathedral

9:00am Mass @ Christ the King, Mayfield West

Thursday 11th April

*Memorial of St Stanislaus*

8:15am Mass @ The Cathedral

9:00am Mass @ Stockton

Friday 12th April

10:15am Mass @ St Joseph's

11:00am Exposition, Adoration & Reconciliation @  
Tighes Hill (until 12pm) \*\* This week only

12:05pm Mass @ Tighes Hill \*\* This week only

Saturday 13th April

9:15am Mass @ The Cathedral, followed by the  
Novena to Our Lady of Perpetual Help  
(followed by Reconciliation)

5:30pm Mass @ The Cathedral

5:30pm Mass @ The Junction

5:30pm Mass @ Mayfield West

Sunday 14th April

*Third Sunday of Easter, Year B*

7:30am Mass @ St Mary's

8:00am Mass @ Tighes Hill

9:00am Mass @ Stockton

9:30am Mass @ The Cathedral \*

11:00am Mass @ The Junction (*Italian*)

11:30am Mass @ The Cathedral (*Polish*)

5:00pm Mass @ The Cathedral

6:00pm Mass @ Mayfield West (*Vietnamese*)

\*\* No Mass this weekend

\* *Livestreamed on the Cathedral's YouTube channel—  
www.youtube.com/c/SacredHeartCathedralHamilton  
and on the Diocesan website*

\*\* The Vietnamese Mass is now celebrated fortnightly

## PRAYER REQUESTS

**RECENTLY DECEASED:** Rudy Ramos, Joy Riley

**ANNIVERSARIES:** Barry Gordon, Tess O'Neill, Johnny Guzman, Maurice Kerr, Edna O'Beirne, Bernard Geatches, Monsignor Vincent Casey, Alan Wright, Faye Martin

**SICK:** Lisa Woodland, Maria Therese

Perera, Dionisio Di Santo, Tui Innes, Marko Kefecsek, Ronoel Diwa, Jolina Joyce Saranillo, Maureen Dwyer, Angela Cottier, Joshua Zalanardo, Rosa Silivinec, Harry Melville, Doreen Mason, Elaine Johnson, Stewart McKinnon, Mark Caesar, Peter Kefecsek, Carlo Rossi, Neil Thomas, Kathryn Gray, Emilie Tseronis, Josephine Diwa



*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](http://www.newcastlecatholic.org.au/downloads).*

## OUR BELOVED DEAD

We remember those in our Columbaria whose anniversaries occur in April:

At Sacred Heart

Leo Burke

Beryl Coferos

Lorraine Driscoll

Mary Duggan

Kathleen Gibson

Monica Hayes

Joy Patricia Jarrett

Mary Noreen Long

Alice Martin

Ian Edward McDonald

Cary McNabb

Patricia Mather

Krystyna Mazalo

Laurel May Murray

Nola Margaret Phillips

Frank Keith Pilgrim

Sandra Rufo

Henrietta Vujeva

Elaine Iris Wilson

At St Joseph's:

John Barber

Bruce Buckland

Joseph Callen

Mark John Chappell

Elsie Craig

Norma Patricia De Lore

Harry Fleming

Peter Groombridge

Jim Heaney

Kathleen Hiscox

Michael Johns

Warren Kelly

Milheim Lettoof

Joan Nelson

Jeremiah O'Doherty

Frank O'Sullivan

Ellen Palmer

Mossie Smith

Edna Sowerby

Lorna Wakely

Leo Wallace

John Joseph Willcock

## NEXT WEEK'S READINGS:

**Third Sunday of Easter Year B**

Acts 3:13-15, 17-19

1 Jn 2:1-5

Lk 24: 35-48



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

## LAUDATO SI' WEEK MAY 19-26 2024

### THEME: SEEDS OF HOPE

#### Climate

Pope Francis in Laudato si' (LS) says: "The climate is a common good, belonging to all and meant for all" LS #23 ·

From reflection to action: A swift and significant reduction in pollution will help all living beings now and into the future. How can you advocate for stronger action for climate justice?

#### **MAGDALENE AWARD:**

Nominations are open from Monday 8 April

The Magdalene Award recognises a woman living in, and committed to, the Diocese of Maitland Newcastle. This is a public affirmation of a life lived in ways that echo the spirit of Mary Magdalene.

For more information, visit [www.mn.catholic.org.au/church-mission/mission-and-outreach/council-for-women/magdalene-award-2024](http://www.mn.catholic.org.au/church-mission/mission-and-outreach/council-for-women/magdalene-award-2024)

#### **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,

E [childprotection@mn.catholic.org.au](mailto:childprotection@mn.catholic.org.au) or

[www.officeofsafeguarding.org.au](http://www.officeofsafeguarding.org.au)

## **HISTORICAL CONTEXT**

### **My Lord and my God**

*This extraordinarily clear statement of belief about the divinity of Jesus appears nowhere else in any of the four gospels. Why does the Gospel of John make this statement and not any of the other gospels? It must be remembered that the Gospel of John was the last of the four gospels to be written – at least 20 years after the Gospel of Mark and some 60 to 70 years after the death of Jesus. The early Christians had been cast out of the Jewish tradition and were making sense of how their own beliefs could stand apart from Jewish tradition. With the break from Judaism, Christians felt able to express their developing belief that Jesus was God.*

## **DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY**

On this Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> April we celebrate Divine Mercy Sunday. A Prayer service will be held from 3-4 pm at Christ the King Church Mayfield West. All are welcome.

#### **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.

## 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.

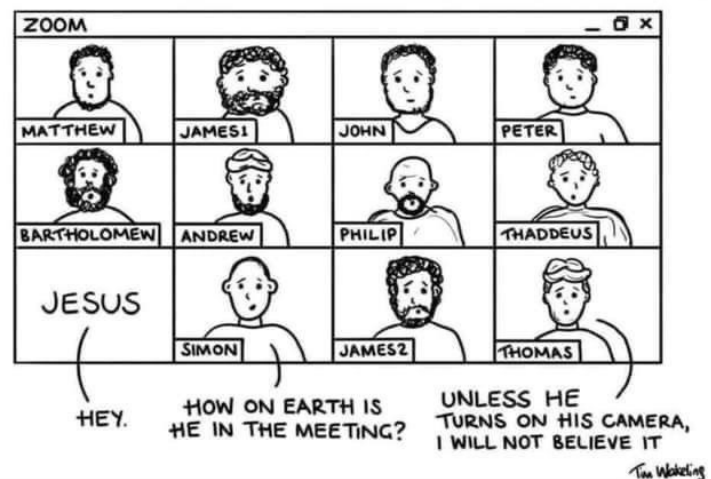
Years ago I remember struggling with some personal issues during a retreat. One day, when I felt lowest about myself, the retreat director, adapting today's psalm, 117, said to me, 'you realise that the stone

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.'

© Richard Leonard SJ. <http://www.liturgyhelp.com>



## AN EVENT CELEBRATING THE MINISTRY OF TERESA BRIERLEY

You are invited to join us in celebrating the ministry of Teresa Brierley on Friday 12 April.

After almost 20 years with the Diocese, Teresa has resigned from her role as Director Pastoral Ministries. We're looking forward to recognising Teresa and acknowledging her significant work for the diocese and our community before she finishes in April.

Please find the event details below:

Date: Friday 12 April

Time: 2pm to 4pm

Location: Southern Cross Hall (841 Hunter Street, Newcastle West) RSVP: By 4 April, at <https://teresabrierley.eventbrite.com.au> Registering is essential.

## SING TO THE LORD

Sing to the Lord is a cantor training and formation opportunity for all members of the faithful. We are looking for everyone who loves to sing and would like to have a go. To find out more and express interest use the following link or QR Code:



<https://forms.office.com/r/7CGYdeXGZw>

## WOMEN OF THE WELL: WEEKEND RETREAT

Rest, reflect, release and reconnect at the next Women of the Well Weekend Retreat. It starts on Friday 19 April (ending Sunday 21 April) and will be hosted at St Joseph's, Kincumber. Cost is \$125. For more information or to register, visit [www.womenofthewell.com.au/events/gatherings-at-the-well](http://www.womenofthewell.com.au/events/gatherings-at-the-well)

## PRINCIPLES OF SOCIAL TEACHING (PRE-ASSEMBLY OPT-IN SEMINAR)

As part of our participation in the Hunter Community Alliance Founding Assembly, we are providing a seminar on Principles of Social Teaching. The recent Synod of Bishops wrote in their Synthesis Report:

*"Christians have a duty to commit themselves to active participation in building up the common good and defending the dignity of life, drawing inspiration from the Church's social doctrine."*

Come along and learn why we do what we do and then be a part of the historical gathering at the University Great Hall.

The seminar will be followed by the celebration of Mass before walking on pilgrimage to the university.

### Workshop

When: Wednesday, 10<sup>th</sup> April

Time: Gather from 2.30pm for a 3pm start. Mass at 4.30pm.

Where: Our Lady of Victories Catholic Church, Shortland (enter parking from Lovell Pde)

Register: <https://forms.office.com/r/5C3pY78tsw>

## CATHEDRAL MORNING TEA

Our next morning tea at Sacred Heart Cathedral is April 14th.

All are welcome!

If you'd like to bring a plate to share, please let Anne know after Mass.

Thanks!



## CHILDREN'S MISSION PARTNERS:

The collective efforts and generosity of the Tighes Hill Catholic community will be celebrated at the monthly morning tea in April, after a significant fundraising milestone was achieved recently. Following the 8am Mass at the Immaculate Heart of Mary Church, Catholic Mission is inviting locals to celebrate the achievement of \$50,000 worth of donations, from parishioners over the past three decades. There also will be an acknowledgement of the individual efforts of long-term Tighes Hill resident and parishioner, Margaret Crockett. She has been collecting the funds from different parishioners, recording them in her exercise books and passing the funds on to Catholic Mission, for its work with children in need around the world. All are invited to join the community for morning tea, after Mass on Sunday, April 21.

## VIEW, CHEW, CHAT, AND LECTIO

View, Chew, and Chat meets April 10 for episode 3 of The Chosen. To participate, please email the parish office.

## BOOK CLUB

**Sunday, 7th April @ 6:15pm:** Bookclub meets to discuss *Willow Man* by Inga Simpson. If you would like to participate in book club meetings, please email [newcparish@mn.catholic.org.au](mailto:newcparish@mn.catholic.org.au)



## 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

## MEDITATION GROUPS AT LIVING WATERS 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.

## FOOD BASKETS FOR THE NEEDY

Items of dry goods or tin food e.g. (Vegemite, cornflakes or breakfast foods, sugar, packet or tin soup, sardines, tea, coffee, tin fruit etc ), can be placed in the basket at the back of **St Joseph's Church**, The Junction and in the foyer of **Immaculate Heart of Mary Church**, Tighes Hill. St Vincent de Paul members will pick up for distribution to the needy who are very grateful to receive the items. When donating please check expiry dates. Thank you. Questions to Sr Carol Woodland rsj (mob) 0423 700 523 or 4967 2998. The St Joseph's community kindly requests that you do not donate peanut butter.

## SACRED HEART CATHEDRAL & ST MARY'S, NEWCASTLE:

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.

## EPIC (EVERYTHING POSSIBLE IN CHRIST) YOUNG ADULT GROUP

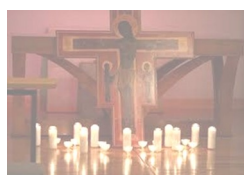
Are you aged between 20 and 40? Are you interested to share your faith with like-minded young adults? Then our new faith sharing group might be for you! We meet Thursdays @ 7pm in the Cathedral precinct. Email [Elul.tecle@mn.catholic.org.au](mailto:Elul.tecle@mn.catholic.org.au) to find out more.

## 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.

## TAIZE SERVICE

Sunday 7th April  
Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic Church Tighes Hill 5.00pm – 6pm  
*followed by a shared supper.*



You can read about it in the Aurora article "A spirit of joy, simplicity and reconciliation" available in the Diocesan website: <http://mnnews.today>

## 2024 SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM

The preparations for the sacraments of Initiation, Confirmation and First Eucharist in the Inner Newcastle Parish are now underway. Over 80 children in Years 4, 5, 6 and in high school are now enrolled. They will complete the preparations with families via online activities and volunteer work within the community.

Next week, those involved in the program will receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation for the first time. Please include these children in your prayers.

Enrolments are still open:

<https://www.newcastlecatholic.org.au/sacramental-enrolment-form/>

For more information please contact the office on 49791101 or [newcparish@mn.catholic.org.au](mailto:newcparish@mn.catholic.org.au)

## "TILLING THE CHURCH: THEOLOGY FOR AN UNFINISHED PROJECT". ZOOM DISCUSSION

While Father Richard's visit in 2023 was short, he last left our Diocese with riches which we can continue to explore together, as our church is an unfinished project and in need of tilling.

We will continue the discussion in 2024!

You are invited to discuss Father Richard's latest publication, "Tilling the Church: Theology for an Unfinished Project" chapter by chapter over the next several months online.

Wednesday 17 April: Chapter 5. The Future-Oriented Past

Wednesday 15 May: Chapter 6. The Art of Faithfulness and conclusion

To register go to: <https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/tilling-the-church-theology-of-an-unfinished-project-tickets-708150125087>

## MEN'S ROSARY GROUP

The Men's Rosary will be held on the first Saturday of each month @ 1pm at Sacred Heart Cathedral, 841 Hunter St, Newcastle West. For more Information contact Jason on 0499 854 928.



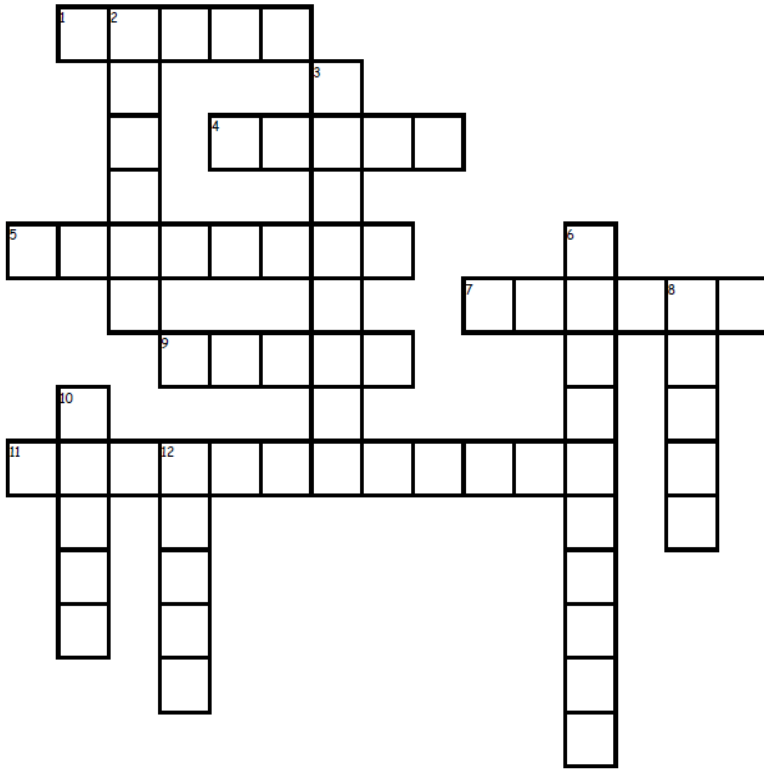
## PARISH LUNCHEON

Parish Luncheon at *Souths Leagues Club, Llewellyn St, Merewether* @ 12.30pm on Monday, 15th April. All welcome. Inquiries to Maureen (Tighes Hill) on 0412 673151.

CROSSWORD

Those who believe are called God's children

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



Across

- 1: Jesus asked Thomas if he only had \_\_\_\_\_ because he had seen him
- 4: the disciples felt this way when they saw Jesus appear
- 5: young people
- 7: this man wanted to see Jesus' wounds before he would believe it was really him
- 9: to let others use your belongings
- 11: we show our love for God by obeying his c\_\_\_\_\_

Down

- 2: the disciples were \_\_\_\_\_ of the Jewish leaders
- 3: Jesus did this after the disciples locked themselves in a room
- 6: Jesus breathed on the disciples and said 'Receive the \_\_\_\_\_' (two words)
- 8: the apostles told everyone that Jesus was now \_\_\_\_\_
- 10: a type of building people live in
- 12: the apostles gave \_\_\_\_\_ to anyone who needed it

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

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

Try to find these words:

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

## HUNTER COMMUNITY ALLIANCE FOUNDING ASSEMBLY

The Hunter Community Alliance brings together diverse communities, environmental groups, unions, and religious organisations to advance the common good and achieve a fair, just and sustainable future for the region.

The Founding Assembly is the next milestone of the HCA's four-year journey of listening, training, preparing, and organising. We are encouraging representatives from every Parish to come along so the broader community can witness our commitment to the common good, the dignity of the human person, solidarity, the preferential option for the poor, stewardship of creation and subsidiarity.

The Founding Assembly will take place April 10th, 6:30pm-8:30pm at the University of Newcastle Great Hall, Callaghan. Register here:

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

## DIOCESAN LIBRARY

Save the Date! Friday 31 May

Join us for the official opening of the Diocesan Library which stands on the site of the original Newcastle Central Christian Library opened in 1957.

This celebration will be followed by a reimagined TWEC dinner which will acknowledge the legacy of Sisters of St Joseph and explore our future journey. More details will be shared soon.

The Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle Library is open for patrons at 12 Tudor Street, Newcastle West.

Opening hours:

Mondays – 10am to 6pm

Fridays – 10am to 6pm

Saturdays 10am to 2pm

## SCRIPTURAL CONTEXT – NOT AN ENDING?

The final two verses of today's gospel passage (Jn 20:30-31) read like the conclusion to the whole gospel. They are a statement of finality about the purpose for writing the gospel and something of a blessing for those who read it. Yet, surprisingly, there is another whole chapter that follows this passage that deals with still more post-resurrection appearances. Most scripture scholars believe that the end of Chapter 20 was the original ending of the gospel and that Chapter 21 is a later addition – possibly added by the community for whom the gospel was originally written.



# 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!*

## THE CHUCKLE

I had my patience tested.

I'm negative.



## 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](http://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](http://www.merewetherbeach.catholic.edu.au)

### St Columban's Primary School

Penny Banister (*Principal*)

Church Street, Mayfield NSW 2304

P:(02) 4968 3315

W:[www.mayfieldsc.catholic.edu.au](http://www.mayfieldsc.catholic.edu.au)

### St Peter's Primary School

Michael Punch (*Principal*)

Dunbar St, Stockton NSW 2295

P:(02) 4928 1861

W:[www.stockton.catholic.edu.au](http://www.stockton.catholic.edu.au)