



**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. **Mayfield Parish**: Christ the King, Mayfield West. **Stockton Parish**: St Peter-in-Chains, Stockton.

# Sunday 26th January 2025 Australia Day

## **Our Clergy**

Fr Greg Barker 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

E: newcparish@mn.catholic.org.au W: www.newcastlecatholic.org.au W: www.sacredhearthamilton.org.au

#### **Our Staff**

Margaret Cox (Reception & Administration)
Anne Warren (Business Manager)
Daloras Howes (Administration)
Elul Tecle (Administration)
Peter Davies (Administration)
Dr Anne Millard (Music, Liturgy, Sacraments)

#### **Bereavement Team:**

Margaret Cox, Gail Lovell, Christopher Gregory, Margaret Beard, Margaret Newton, Anne Millard (02) 4979 1252

#### **Mercy Pastoral Team:**

Sr Patricia Whitten rsm 0448463679

#### St Joseph's Pastoral Team:

Contact the Parish Office

### **Promotors of Safeguarding**

Gail Lovell (02) 4979 1256 Anne Millard (02) 4979 1252



#### STAY IN TOUCH!

Fr Greg would like to communicate with all the parishioners. To that end, would you please let us know your email address? Simply tear off this strip and place it on the collection plate. Alternatively you can fill out the online form available at:

https://forms.office.com/r/v3ef5US5dW or via the QR code. Many thanks!

■Name:		
Email address:		



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.

#### FROM THE PARISH PRIEST

Dear Parish Family,

Blessings on Australia Day. I realise that this day is controversial. There are those who love Australia Day 26 January and there are those for whom this is a divisive, not unifying, and a painful day. We



are called to respect the views of those who may not agree with us. Regardless of our position it is a day to acknowledge that we belong to a wonderful nation and a country of many graces. I know we are not perfect, so it is also a day to work on some of those things we need to change to make us better. We acknowledge our first nations people. Welcome to our refugees and migrants – hopefully you have been welcomed – refugees are not illegal immigrants. We have much to work on. May God always bless our country and all of us who live here.

I understand you already know that we are bound by several compliance and governance policies – we live and minister in a modern world and are bound to follow those 'rules'. I don't always like them, but I know the intent is safety, they are designed to protect in the first instance our people - safety of our community is paramount. What we did even 20 years ago can be problematic now. We can't always do what we have always done. Our risks must be assessed for

# **GOSPEL FOCUS**

# Covenant

The structure of the Beatitudes can be seen as yet another attempt by God to re-establish a covenant between Godself and the people. Throughout Jewish history, God called the people back into relationship and re-established God's covenant with them. Like all the previous versions of the covenant, the Beatitudes contain both a series of demands and a series of promises. It is a two-way deal. The first part of each Beatitude is a statement of what the people are called to do and the second part is God's promise of how they will be rewarded for their right action.

**PLEASE NOTE:** the parish office will be closed on Monday (27/1) Public Holiday.

the benefit of the church, the people we minister to. Breaches can put our insurance at risk if we don't follow the appropriate legislation. We need people with the appropriate trades to fix some things, we must be mindful of appropriate footwear, clothing, etc – you can't climb ladders over a certain height. The rules apply in the same way for the other organisations you belong to or organisations you work for.

Copyright of course plays a big part of being compliant and as it turns out it is doing the right thing. Intellectual property has the same protections as physical property. We can all be a bit slack about that – we photocopy articles, music, artwork and hand it to our friends or leave it at the back of the church to share. It may well be understandable, and it has a generosity about it. When we do some of these things in the public domain it becomes problematic. If you would please check before you leave something at the door of the church so that I can make sure it is okay.

You may not know that we add copyright to everything we print. We check to ensure it is covered by our licence. We also count the number of copies. Each week or month depending on our setup those numbers and the hymns used are sent into our licencing company; it is a licence related to the numbers of people who attend our Masses as well. Every liturgy is included: weddings, funerals, baptisms, all masses. Every time we use printed lyrics we must record its use. It is important to not only acknowledge the artist but also to make sure they are paid for what they have produced. For some it is their only source of income. When we don't record correctly what we have used we run the risk of negating our licence and incurring a huge fine; you may not necessarily recognise it for what it is; however, it is theft. I am the responsible person. I must worry about it, which means my office staff have to worry about it. It also should mean you have to be mindful of it. It is important.

Regards,

Greg

Parish Priest.

#### FAREWELL FR ANIL

Fr Anil's last Mass with us is this Sunday 26 January at 9.30am in Sacred Heart Cathedral. We thank Fr Anil for his joy filled spirit and generous



ministry among us, and wish him happiness in his next appointment in the Chisholm pastoral region.

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

3rd week in Ordinary Time Year 1

Monday 27 January

8:15am Mass @ The Cathedral

Tuesday 28 January

St Thomas Aquinas, priest, doctor

8:15am Mass @ The Cathedral

9:00am Mass @ Stockton

10:30am Mass at Badcoe House

Wednesday 29 January

8:15am Mass @ The Cathedral

9:00am Mass @ Mayfield

Thursday 30 January

8:15am Mass @ The Cathedral

9:00am Mass @ Stockton

5:30pm Mass at Mission to Seafarers, Wickham

Friday 31 January

St John Bosco, priest

9:30am Funeral Mass for Antonia Silvestri

10:15am Mass @ The Junction

11:00am Exposition, Adoration & Reconciliation @

The Cathedral (until 12pm)

12:05pm Mass @ The Cathedral

Saturday 1 February

9.15am Mass @ The Cathedral, followed by the

Novena to Our Lady of Perpetual Help,

followed by Reconciliation

4th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Saturday 1 February

5:30pm Mass @ The Cathedral 5:30pm Mass @ The Junction

5:30pm Mass @ Mayfield West

Sunday 2 February

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 Vietnamese Mass @ Mayfield West

(Mass 2 Feb; no Mass 9 Feb)

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

#### **PARISH BULLETIN**

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

#### **PRAYER REQUESTS**

#### **RECENTLY DECEASED:**

Sr Ruth Long rsj, Antonia Silvestri



**ANNIVERSARIES:** Caitlin Potts, Kate Harrington, Sandra O'Toole, John Anicich, Matthew O'Dowd, Sr Rosemary Jackson rsj, Imelda Wilkinson, Rita Rumball, James Royan, Maureen Narvo, Ruby Knee, Tomislau Kefecek, Marie Gardiner, Jack Power, John Michael Power

**PRAYERS FOR THE SICK**: Carlo Rossi, John Woodward, Neil Thomas, Louise Hall, Tui Innes, Felicity Dawson, Sr Ann Daley rsj, Patrick Theodore, Jean Luc

Names may be placed in "Prayer Requests" 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:**



Jer 1:4-5. 17-19 1 Cor 12:31 – 13:13 Lk 4:21-30

#### OUR BELOVED DEAD

We remember those in our Columbaria whose anniversaries occur in January.

#### At Sacred Heart Cathedral:

Colleen Bennett Mgr Allan Hart Maureen Burke William Hart Madeleine Cherry Ken (Johno) Johnson Elaine Dodds Margaret Jones Lawrence (Jack) Drage Maureen Narvo Mary Drage Frank (Fiore) Pati Thi Bich Van Pham Robert Driscoll Bernard Duggan Margery Presland Nancy Gorman John Scrogings Harold (Harry) Hancock **Margaret Scrogings** Henry Charles Hardy Henk Van Schyndel

#### At St Joseph's:

John Edward Carr	John O'Callaghan
Annie Stamp	Stephen Smith
Rita Schuck	Peg Sugden
Ray Callen	Kerrie Walters
Brendan Blakemore	Thea Ethel Bennis
Doug Carey	Christine Brain
Raymond Dent	Shirley Casey
Joyce Gleeson	Jack & Dinah Heaton

William Hartsorn Milce Lettoof

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

### IMPORTANT - REGISTER UPDATE - PARISH KEYS & ALARM CODES

We are currently updating our parish key and alarm code registers, in line with our obligations in relation to safeguarding and security measures. Maintaining accurate records is important – not just for legal reasons, but also in the event of any changes to locks or alarm keypads.



If you have a key and/or an alarm code for a parish building, please contact Anne Warren at the parish office. Either:

via email, <a href="mailto:anne.warren@mn.catholic.org.au">anne.warren@mn.catholic.org.au</a>, or by phone on 4979 1254. For keys, Anne will need to record the code written on the key.

# PRAYER / DISCUSSION GROUP

The Junction Prayer/Discussion Group will begin 2025 on Thursday 6 February at 9.30am in the Parish Meeting Room, 25 Farguhar St, The Junction.



The Lenten Group, which will use the Wollongong Diocese Metanoia Lenten Program, will start on 6 March in the Junction meeting room. It will continue each Thursday in Lent. Anyone interested in being part of the group can ring Janet on 0435 518 671.

#### **CHRISTIAN MEDITATION AT TIGHES HILL**

This is non-denominational - everyone welcome.

WHEN: Monday afternoon 3.30 for 3.45 start. WHERE: Immaculate Heart of Mary Church, 16 Tighes Tce, Tighes Hill.

#### COMMUNITY KITCHENS

The Community Kitchens run by CatholicCare can be accessed by anyone who needs a warm meal or support. Five locations operate



across the Hunter and Mid-North Coast, including:

Hamilton South: Every Wednesday, 12pm to 1pm at 29 Fowler Street, Hamilton South

Newcastle: Every Saturday, 5.30pm to 6.30pm (6.30pm to 7.30pm during Daylight Savings) at Civic Park, King Street, Newcastle

Toronto: Every Thursday, 5pm to 6.30pm at 97 The Boulevarde, Toronto

#### WEDNESDAY ROSARY



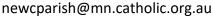
Pray the Rosary each Wednesday after 8:15am Mass in Sacred Heart Cathedral, 841 Hunter St, Newcastle West.

#### MEN'S ROSARY GROUP

The Men's Rosary is held the first Saturday of every month following Mass and Novena at Sacred Heart Cathedral. The next Men's Rosary is Saturday 1st February at 10.30am. For more information contact Jason on 0499 854 928.

#### **BOOK CLUB**

**Book Club** meets Sunday, 2nd February to discuss *At the Foot of the Cherry Tree* by Alli Parker. If you would like to participate in book club meetings, please email:





#### **DIVINE MERCY DEVOTION**

First Sunday of the Month @ 3:00pm 2nd February Chaplet of Divine Mercy Christ the King, Mayfield West

#### LIVING WATERS MEDITATION CENTRE

A Christian Meditation Centre at 34 Kenrick Street, The Junction, which offers meditation sessions on Wednesdays at 7.30am and Fridays at 11.00am. After

meditation on Fridays, Lectio Divina, a personal interaction with Sacred Scripture, is offered. For more information: Carmel Moore rsj 0412122297.



# VIEW, CHEW, CHAT, AND LECTIO

View, Chew, and Chat meets February 5th for Lectio. To participate, please email the parish office.

#### THE RETURN OF EPIC

EPIC (Everything Possible in Christ)
Youth Group meets on the 1st and 3rd
Wednesdays of the month at 6pm in the
Cathedral precinct. We resume on 5th Feb.



Anyone aged between 20 and 40 is cordially invited to join the group.

Email Elul.tecle@mn.catholic.org.au to find out more.

#### "LIGHT SOURCE"

Multi-disciplinary artists Ken O'Regan, Chris Brown and Kris Smith, present "Light Source", a meditation on the passage of deep time and the intersection of natural and built environments. Using light as their primary medium, these artists speak to the possibility of our speculative futures through experimental interpretations. Employing methods of found object assemblage, traditional and digital image processes, themes around the intertwined fragility of our constructed ecosystems and entropy are explored.

The exhibition is on at Watt Space Gallery, cnr King and Auckland Sts, from 15th Jan - 8th March. It will include some photography taken from inside St Mary's through stained glass windows.

Opening hours: Wed to Fri: 11am - 5pm, Sat: 12 - 4pm or by appointment.

#### CHARISMATIC PRAYER MEETING

The Immaculate Conception of Mary Charismatic Prayer Group will resume on Monday, February 3.

We are excited to invite you to experience charismatic prayer and worship and be inspired by our guest presenter, James Camden, Director of Mission and Evangelisation. All are welcome.



**Date**: Monday, February 3 **Time**: 7.30pm-9.00pm

Location: Diocesan Resource Centre

12 Tudor St. Newcastle West (Corner of Tudor and Parry Stadjacent to the Sacred Heart

Cathedral)

For more information contact Pam Tierney on 0447 498 298

# INTRODUCTORY COURSE IN CLINICAL PASTORAL EDUCATION (CPE) 40HRS

This course is an introduction to the theory and practice of pastoral/spiritual care. It is a qualification required by NSW Health for those wishing to become hospital chaplaincy visitors.

It covers such topics as listening skills, empathy, grief and loss, self-awareness and hospital procedures. A certificate is awarded on completion.

**Where**: Mackillop Catholic Parish Centre, Milson St, CHARLESTOWN

When: Each Monday, commencing 3 February to 3

March, 9am to 4pm

Cost: \$500

Further enquiries can be obtained by contacting Fr Roger Zohrab on 0418-438-649 or rzohrab@bigpond.com

#### **SISTERS OF FAITH DINNER**

Join our annual dinner on **Thursday February 20:** an enjoyable and respectful evening of dialogue among women from diverse backgrounds and faiths, fostering learning, sharing, and unity. We are pleased to welcome Rev. Faaimata Havea Hiliau – Moderator of the Uniting Church Synod of NSW and ACT as this year's guest speaker. The Moderator is elected to give prophetic and pastoral leadership to the people and congregations of the Synod and called to

remind the church of our hope in Jesus Christ. Tickets for the dinner are limited to 100 women and can be purchased at a heavily subsidised price of \$35 from this link -



https://sisters-faith-2025.eventbrite.com.au

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to email mission@mn.catholic.org.au and one of our wonderful team at *Mission & Evangelisation* will be able to assist you.

#### REFLECTION BY DIANNE BERGANT CSA

To follow Jesus does not mean merely that one travels with him from place to place. It means that one learns from him, that one follows his manner of life and his way of thinking. To follow Jesus means to follow his example in the way he respects himself and other people, in his use of the things of the natural world. It means that one listens to what he says, and asks for an explanation when what he says is not understood. All of this requires that the disciple be a learner, one who can learn from the life of Jesus as well as from his teaching.

The first lessons that the disciples must learn are found in the beatitudes. The same lessons are placed before us, the modern-day disciples. The setting of Jesus' teaching is so serene; a mountain apart, a teacher with his disciples gathered around him, simple statements that are coupled with glorious rewards. However, the reality of the lessons is in stark contrast with this tranquil scene. These beatitudes, these blessings call for profound inner transformation.

The gospel outlines the kind of person the disciple is to become; the psalm sketches the program to which the learner is called. The disciples of Jesus are not merely his followers; they also continue the work that he began. In whatever circumstance of life we find ourselves, as disciples of Jesus we work to sustain the good that is in the world and to transform whatever needs transformation.

© Dianne Bergant CSA

#### **DIOCESAN RESOURCE CENTRE**

**Opening Hours:** Mondays and Fridays, 10am to 5pm. Open 1st & 3rd Saturday of each month, 10am to 2pm. cnr Tudor and Parry Sts, Newcastle West.



All resources are available to borrow; and are searchable on the library catalogue, which can be accessed through this link:

https://tinyurl.com/DOMNI ibrary

https://tinyurl.com/DOMNLibrary OR use the QR code to the right.

"Between Two Worlds" - Formation Film on 1 February 2025 at 11am: Marianne (Juliette Binoche) finds work as a cleaner, enduring tough conditions and long hours. However, she's actually a journalist undercover, wanting to write about the hidden crisis of unemployment experienced by those in precarious jobs.

The film explores themes of inequality and the discomfort of Marianne's quest to understand those she portrays, highlighting her separation from their reality despite good intentions.

Lunch, coffee & tea provided.

Registration: https://tinyurl.com/FormationFilm

or call Mary O'Connor on 0409033449

**2pm:** A chance to reflect and discuss seasons, moments and mysteries of the church and our faith. Registration: https://tinyurl.com/FormationFriday

or contact Rose McAllister at

rose.mcallister@mn.catholic.org.au.

#### SUPPORT YOUR PARISH VIA THE APP

Are you using the App? Not only can you get the daily readings on your phone, you can also support the parish with an easy way to donate. You can download the app for free from the Apple App Store and Google Play Store. Just search for 'Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle' and click install on your mobile or tablet!

#### **BEQUESTS**

To help our Catholic Pastoral Region continue its mission of proclaiming the Good News, you might consider including us in your Will. You just need to specify which parish(es) you would like to help.

#### THE CHUCKLE

Blessed are we who can laugh at ourselves for we shall never cease to be amused.



# LATEST NEWS FROM OUR SAFEGUARDING PROMOTERS

The Promoters of Safeguarding continue to endorse a culture of safeguarding within the Parish. To this end, we mention the dangers of information technology (IT) presents for children.



IT-related presents, such as smartphones, tablets, and gaming consoles, can pose dangers to children if not managed carefully. Prolonged screen time can lead to health issues like eye strain, poor sleep, and reduced physical activity. Unrestricted internet access exposes children to inappropriate content, online predators, and cyberbullying. Social media apps may harm their mental health, fostering unrealistic comparisons and anxiety. Online gaming platforms often include in-app purchases, potentially leading to financial risks.

Without proper security measures, children may fall victim to scams, malware, or identity theft. Excessive use of IT devices can hinder social skills and family interactions. Parents should monitor usage, implement parental controls, and educate children about online safety. Balancing screen time with offline activities and fostering open communication about digital habits can help mitigate these risks, ensuring technology enhances rather than harms children's well being.

#### TAIZE SERVICE

Sunday 2nd February Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic Church Tighes Hill 5pm – 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



#### FOOD BASKETS FOR THE NEEDY



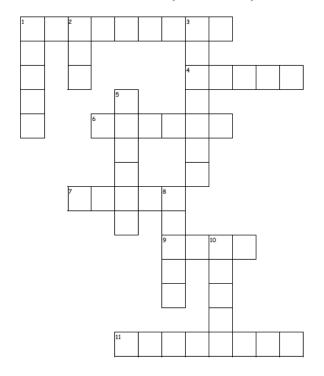
Items of dry goods or tin food can be placed in the blue bins located at our churches. St Vincent de Paul members will pick up for distribution to the needy who are very grateful to receive

the items. When donating please check expiry dates. We request that you do not donate peanut butter. Any of the following non-perishable items are welcome: UHT milk, cereal, spreads, tinned goods (veggies, fruit, soup, fish, meat), pasta, rice, pasta sauces, tea, coffee, biscuits, custard, jelly, toothpaste, toothbrushes, soap, shampoo, conditioner, deodorant. Thank you. Questions to Sr Carol Woodland rsj (mob) 0423 700 523 or 4967 2998.

#### CROSSWORD

Mt 5:1-12ab

# Blessed are the poor in spirit



#### Across

- 1: Jesus' followers
- 4: a large group of people
- 6: God blesses people with pure \_\_\_\_\_
- 7: our planet
- 9: unblemished
- 11: a very tall, large land mass

#### Down

- 1: you do this when you are thirsty
- 2: Jesus \_\_\_ down on the side of the mountain
- 3: extremely happy
- 5: a gift for good deeds
- 8: glad
- 10: correct

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# JUNIOR WORDSEARCH Blessed are the poor in spirit

Mt 5:1-12ab

Q	Н	P	C	P	P	٧	Z	A	C	R	0	W	D
K	0	U	E	L	D	M	X	X	В	N	J	F	K
A	I	R	D	Ι	5	C	I	P	L	E	5	Ε	C
A	T	E	D	0	T	H	X	G	Z	Q	R	J	E
D	R	I	N	K	G	Q	0	В	0	Y	I	G	P
G	D	W	L	N	H	E	A	R	T	5	G	P	E
M	0	U	N	T	A	I	N	T	R	Н	Н	J	D
E	P	D	H	В	Z	I	5	X	Z	A	T	U	T
R	M	K	P	٧	L	A	У	N	E	A	N	I	L
E	X	C	I	Т	E	D	U	K	X	U	5	L	T
R	E	W	A	R	D	Z	A	E	A	R	T	H	Z
y	C	N	U	P	H	A	P	P	У	K	A	L	Q
N	N	G	U	D	U	E	H	F	Z	U	В	Z	M
F	L	Р	٧	5	A	T	J	X	R	J	٧	U	W

# Try to find these words:

crowd
disciples
drink
earth
excited
happy
hearts
mountain
pure
reward
right
sat

#### REFLECTION BY FR MICHAEL TATE

The Beatitudes are at the beginning of the 'Sermon on the Mount'. This sermon provides a picture of a society where the usual expectations of how people relate to each other are turned upside down.

Australia, 'Down Under', is a place to which people have been attracted by a vision of a different future, a future where human beings could relate to each other differently to the old order in their society of origin.

De Quiros, the Portuguese explorer of the 16th Century, set out on a quest for 'Terra Austrialia del Espiritu Santo', South Land of the Holy Spirit.

I am convinced that 'Australia' is a work of the Holy Spirit, one of whose most distinctive works at Pentecost was the breaking down of ethnic and language barriers between people.

Australia is a place where that Pentecostal impulse is creating a new society. Have we responded to the Holy Spirit perfectly? No. Treatment of the earliest inhabitants of this land was shameful, and is not yet fully remedied as the Lord of the Sermon on the Mount desires.

But, we could pause for a moment and thank God.

For our land abounding in nature's gifts of beauty rich and rare.

For the divine Spirit of Pentecost attracting us to follow Jesus in this South Land of the Holy Spirit.

© Fr Michael Tate



#### **OUR CATHOLIC 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

Penny Banister (*Principal*)
Church Street, Mayfield NSW 2304
P:(02) 4968 3315
W: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

### St Francis Xavier's College

Greg Ptolemy (*Principal*)
Parkway Avenue, Hamilton NSW 2303
P:(02) 4961 2863
W:www.hamilton.catholic.edu.au

#### San Clemente High School

Emma South (*Principal*)
78 Havelock St, Mayfield NSW 2304
P:(02) 4014 7300
W:www.mayfieldsanc.catholic.edu.au

### St Dominic's Catholic College

Rachel Jones (*Principal*)
76 Havelock St, Mayfield NSW 2304
P:(02) 4968 1295
W:www.mayfieldsd.catholic.edu.au

#### **SAFEGUARDING**

The Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle has an abiding commitment to promote the safety, welfare and wellbeing 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, or email childprotection@mn.catholic.org.au or

www.officeofsafeguarding.org.au