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 13TH APRIL 2025 PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD, YEAR C

Our Clergy

Fr Greg Barker Fr Anthony Coloma 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

After hours emergency phone: 0494 390 653

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

St Joseph's Pastoral Team:

Contact the Parish Office

Promoters of Safeguarding

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



One with the lost

Throughout the Gospel of Luke, Jesus is portrayed as not only the champion of the poor and outcast, but indeed being one with them. The witnesses to his birth in this gospel are lowly shepherds, not the wise men from the East. His parables and actions are addressed to the lost and the lowly. He eats with sinners and other outcasts — to the horror of Jewish leaders. Finally, at his death, Jesus is crucified as a criminal with other criminals. This gospel in particular addresses the message and ministry of Jesus to those on the margins of society.

PARISH BULLETIN

Prayer requests and items for the Bulletin need to 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)

Holy Week

Monday 14 April

8:15am Mass @ The Cathedral

Tuesday 15 April

8:15am Mass @ The Cathedral

9:00am Mass @ Stockton

11:00am Mass at Moran Aged Care, Stockton

7:00pm Chrism Mass @ The Cathedral

Wednesday 16 April

8:15am Mass @ The Cathedral

9:00am Mass @ Mayfield West

Thursday 17 April Holy Thursday

Mass of the Lord's Supper:

7:00pm Mass @ The Cathedral

7:00pm Mass @ Stockton

Friday 18 April Good Friday

9:00am Morning Prayer @ The Cathedral

10:00am Stations of the Cross @ Mayfield West

Celebration of the Lord's Passion:

3:00pm The Cathedral

3:00pm Stockton

Saturday 19 April Holy Saturday

Easter

Sundar

9:00am Morning Prayer @ The Cathedral

Easter Sunday

Saturday 19 April

Easter Vigil:

6:30pm The Cathedral

6:30pm Stockton

Sunday 20 April

7:30am Mass @ St Mary's

8:00am Mass @ Tighes Hill

9:00am Mass @ Mayfield West

9:30am Mass @ The Cathedral *

11:00am Italian Mass @ The Junction

11:30am Polish Mass @ The Cathedral

5:00pm Mass @ The Cathedral

5:30pm Vietnamese Mass @ Mayfield West

(Mass 20 Apr, no Mass 27 Apr)

ADVANCED NOTICE - CATHEDRAL CLOSURE - 22 & 23 APRIL

Due to a switchboard upgrade, the Sacred Heart Cathedral will be closed all day on Tuesday, 22 April and Wednesday, 23 April. Please note there will be <u>no</u> <u>8.15am Mass</u> on either of those days.

PRAYER REQUESTS

RECENTLY DECEASED: Gwendoline Griffin, William (Tony) James Anthony Tamplin

ANNIVERSARIES: John Harvey, Maurice

Kerr, Dennis Graham, Alan Wright, Faye Martin, Molly

Walker, John Drain, Kath Drain, Donna Smith

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK: Patricia Gillett, Carlo Rossi,

Tui Innes, Felicity Dawson, Sr Ann Daley rsj, Patrick Theodore, Jean Luc, Angela Cottier, Raymond Morley, Louise Hall, Brian Smith, Phil

Riordan, Twon Nguyen

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.



PLEASE KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS:

Let's pray for those among us who will be washed in the waters of baptism at Easter: Blaize, Emma, Ethan, Samuel, Shamila and Simone.

Elaine Iris Wilson

OUR BELOVED DEAD

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

At Sacred Heart Cathedral:

Leo Burke Krystyna Mazalo Beryl Cofteros Ian Edward McDonald **Lorraine Driscoll** Cary McNabb Laurel May Murray Mary Duggan Nola Margaret Phillips Kathleen Gibson Frank Keith Pilgrim Monica Hayes Joy Patricia Jarrett Sandra Rufo Mary Noreen Long Henrietta Vujeva

Alice Martin
Patricia Mather

At St Joseph's:

Kathleen Hiscox

Michael Johns Warren Kelly Milheim Lettoof John Joseph Willcock John Barber Joan Nelson Bruce Buckland Jeremiah O'Doherty Joseph Callen Frank O'Sullivan Mark John Chappell Ellen Palmer Elsie Craig Mossie Smith Norma Patricia De Lore Edna Sowerby Harry Fleming Lorna Wakely Peter Groombridge Leo Wallace

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

Jim Heaney

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

FROM THE PARISH PRIEST

Dear Parish Family,

Palm Sunday! Where did Lent go! Holy Week begins and I know that there is still much to be done in readiness for the Easter Celebrations, not only in the Church. Every home is getting



ready, religious or not. It is such an ironic turn of events, Easter. So many people will gather in Churches around our community and indeed world. However, many will also gather in homes without much thought to why, yet still marking as significant this important Christian time of the year. Easter Sunday is important to almost everyone, overtly religious or not, whether they fully own it as religious or not.

The palms that everyone will have had blessed today are symbolic of the journey that Jesus made into Jerusalem. As we sing Hosanna we should take some time to reflect on those moments in our own journey when we do sing hosanna acknowledging our King through our actions, also remembering like many who sang on that day some 2000 years ago we have times when we fall away and are not as faithful to the life and invitation to life that we profess. We must note that some who sang hosanna later sang crucify him. The palms are a symbol of both so I remind you to take good care of them, they are blessed, and we will ask for them back next year in readiness for Ash Wednesday. I find the best place to keep mine is to weave the palm through the arms of Jesus on my crucifix. I have a few crucifixes - almost every room has one – I like however to have the palm woven into the arms of the crucifix near my front door, to witness my good times and not so good, my comings and my goings.

As you get ready for Easter and finalise the last bit of shopping can you think about buying one egg that is just a chocolate shell. Many refer to them as hollow, however eggs are not hollow but rather empty. The difference in wording is important. Whilst we sometimes bemoan the commercial nature of the shopping at this time of the year and the hijacking of our days by money makers, not everything is lost to commercial values. Those eggs are symbolic of the empty tomb of Easter Sunday. The egg is a sign of fertility and so new life. When we crack the egg open on Easter Sunday and find it empty, we are reminded of Mary Magdalene arriving at Jesus' tomb and finding it empty.

Grandparents, parents, uncles and aunties make sure you give your loved ones at least one of these symbols

of the empty tomb. As you gather on Easter Sunday in your grace remind the family, and your friends why this day is important, giving thanks for the graces and blessings of that empty tomb for us and why you have given them the empty egg. I have been in the habit of breaking an egg, praying the grace and then inviting each person to take a piece, giving thanks. Jesus died and rose from the dead for all of us, believer and unbeliever, saint and sinner alike. Something worth reminding our loved ones about, I think. And if you want to be really brave — invite them to church with you as a special gift for Easter.

Best wishes,

Greg, Parish Priest.

CONGRATULATIONS



Best wishes to Solomon Petrovski and Rebecca Mottin who celebrated their wedding in Sacred Heart Cathedral on Saturday 12 April.

SAFEGUARDING—EVERYBODY'S RESPONSIBILITY

Promoting Safeguarding: Due to the 'retirement' of both Anne Millard and Gail Lovell as Promoters of Safeguarding in our Parish Community—after guiding through our Safeguarding audit magnificently—an opportunity has arisen for a new team to form. Whilst the 'shoes' of the previous promoters are huge, this is a great opportunity for those with a passion for keeping our community safe, informed and heading in the right direction to be formally involved in this wonderful ministry. There is formation and training available, support from both the Office Safeguarding and our Parish Office, and the knowledge that we are making a difference.

Safeguarding is everybody's responsibility and business! Knowing what to do sometimes is challenging. Our Promoters of Safeguarding help each one of us know what to do when we see, feel, believe something is not right with our children and more vulnerable community members, our brothers and sisters and our neighbours. You'll be part of a wonderful and friendly team of people working together for the betterment of our Parish and community. For more information about this great ministry contact Fr Greg on 0417321209. Remember Safeguarding is everybody's business!

HOLY LAND COLLECTION - GOOD FRIDAY APRIL 18TH 2025



The annual collection for the support of the church in the Holy Land will take place on Good Friday, April 18th. This collection promotes the missionary work of the Church in the Holy Land by providing welfare assistance to local Christians in areas such as health, education, employment, housing, parishes, and orphanages. It is also used to maintain over 70 churches and shrines associated with the life of Jesus.

Due to the ongoing war, the Church and people of the Holy Land are still struggling with reduced income due to fewer pilgrims and lower church attendance around the world. In 2024 Australian Catholics were once again extremely generous and we were able to send to the Holy Land nearly \$1.5 million (\$1.4 million [2023], \$1.4 million [2022] and \$1,126,098 [2021]).

The reality for the Holy Land mission is that they will continue to face challenges, financial and spiritual, and so we again ask Catholics around the world again to be as generous as possible, with their financial support as well as the spiritual support. Please remember the Christians of the Holy Land on Good Friday. Thank you.

Donation envelopes have been sent to all churches this weekend and can either be brought to the Good Friday ceremonies at the Cathedral or Stockton, or placed on the collection plate at any Mass over the next couple of weekends.

PALM SUNDAY PEACE GATHERING



Want Peace? Work for Justice.

Music, reflection, speakers
2.00-4.00pm,
Sunday 13th April 2025
"Tighes Hill Peace Park"

Maitland Road (opposite TAFE)

PILGRIMAGE SITES

Our Jubilee Year is now well underway. It started with an incredible Pilgrimage of Hope from Nobby's Beach to Sacred Heart Cathedral where we celebrated Mass before enjoying a fun festival full of family activities.

Now, we invite you to journey beyond and go on our Pilgrimage through our Diocese! Our eight sites are open and ready for you. Information, including opening times, is available via the QR code or the link: Jubilee Year 2025 - Catholic Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle:

https://tinyurl.com/mnJubileeYear2025

STOCKTON PARISH



There will be **Church cleaning** on Wednesday 16th April at 10.00am. Please come along and help **'as many hands make light work'.**

Also we need another **volunteer** to attend the Chrism Mass at the Cathedral on Tuesday 15th at 7pm to collect the Holy Oils. If you are available, please speak with Maureen after Mass.

RCIA LENTEN PROGRAM

All are welcome to join the RCIA group on Sunday afternoon 13 April, 3.00pm—4.30pm in the Dwyer Room next to the Cathedral, for the Lenten Program.

Please feel welcome to contact Teresa on 0417 885 760.

VIEW, CHEW, AND CHAT

View, Chew, and Chat meets next on 30 April for Lectio Divina. To participate, please email the parish office.

ST JOSEPH'S PRAYER/DISCUSSION GROUP

Recommences Thursday 29 May, and will continue on the last Thursday of each month, in the parish centre at The Junction.

PARISH CENSUS & PLANNED GIVING FORMS

You can use the link or QR code to complete and submit the form online.



https://tinyurl.com/newcparishcensus

GENESIS TO JESUS: BIBLE STUDY



Genesis to Jesus surveys the principal covenants that God made with his people through figures such as Adam, Noah, Abraham, Moses, and

David. This study also shows how each of these covenants points forward to—and is fulfilled by—Jesus Christ and his Church through salvation history. In this series, we will see a panoramic vision of salvation history and our place in this story.

Join Sr Jeannine French rsj and Anne Millard each Wednesday @ 10am in the CRCC Meeting Room, at the Junction.



NEXT WEEK'S READINGS:

Easter Sunday, Year C
First Reading Acts 10:34. 37-43
Second Reading Col 3:1-4
Gospel Jn 20:1-9

BAPTISM TEAM MEETING



Our new baptism team has its first meeting on Thursday 1 May at 7pm, getting ready for our first baptism preparation meeting for parents on Tuesday 6 May at 7pm. We welcome volunteers who would like to help with this ministry.

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.

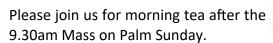
When donating please check expiry dates. We request that you do not donate peanut butter. Any of the following non-perishable items are welcome: UHT milk, cereal, spreads, tinned goods (veggies, fruit, soup, fish, meat), pasta, rice, pasta sauces, tea, coffee, biscuits, custard, jelly, toothpaste, toothbrushes,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

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

MORNING TEA AT THE CATHEDRAL

www.officeofsafeguarding.org.au





PARISH LUNCHEON



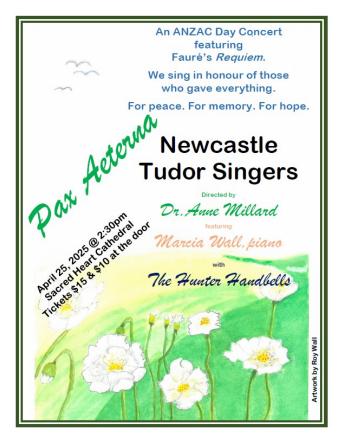
Parish Luncheon at Souths Leagues Club, Llewellyn St, Merewether @ 12.30pm on Monday 21st April. All welcome. Inquiries to Maureen (Tighes Hill) on 0412 673 151.

ADVANCE NOTICE - ANZAC DAY

One Mass will be celebrated in the region: 8am in The Cathedral. The Cadet group will enact the catafalque ritual at this Mass.

This means there will be no 10.15am Mass in St Joseph's, and no exposition, reconciliation or 12noon Mass in The Cathedral.





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.

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

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. For more information contact Jason on 0499 854 928.

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.

MYANMAR EARTHQUAKE

Please help Salesian Missions: On 28 March, a devastating 7.7 magnitude earthquake struck the Mandalay region of Myanmar, causing widespread death and destruction and bringing untold hardship to local communities.

In the wake of this catastrophe, Salesian Missions Australia is responding swiftly to provide aid to those in urgent need. We are reaching out to ask for your support.

Donations can be made via our website:

www.salesianmissionsaus.org.au



EPIC



EPIC (Everything Possible in Christ) Youth Group meet on the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of the month at 6pm in the Cathedral precinct. Anyone aged between 20 and 40 is cordially invited to join the group.

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

BOOK CLUB

Book Club meets Sunday, 4 May to discuss *The Housemaid* by Freida McFadden. If you would like to participate in book club meetings, please email:



newcparish@mn.catholic.org.au

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.

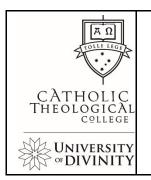
All resources are available to borrow; and are searchable on the library catalogue, which can be accessed through this link: https://tinyurl.com/DOMNLibrary
OR use the QR code to the right.



DO WE HAVE YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS?

Fr Greg would like to communicate news, views and events with parishioners. Simply send an email to newcparish@mn.catholic.org.au, including the church you usually attend, indicating your permission for us to record your email address.





Catholic Theological College Invites you to our Engaging Your Faith online presentations

From \$25 per session.

For more information and to register: ctc.edu.au/engaging-your-faith/

SAFEGUARDING NEWS

The Promoters of Safeguarding continue to endorse a culture of protection within our Parish. This week, your attention is drawn to upcoming **Diocesan Safeguarding Network meetings.**

2025 Network meetings are scheduled for Thursday 5th June and Wednesday 17th September. These meetings serve as a platform for sharing information, best practices, and addressing concerns related to safeguarding within the diocese.

People from each parish within the Diocese who are involved in safeguarding roles are invited, including parish priests, pastoral workers, designated safeguarding committees and leadership groups. Representatives from the Diocesan Office of Safeguarding (OoS) and relevant diocesan staff will also attend. Agenda items and location of these two meetings are under planning by staff at the OoS.

The OoS is changing the dissemination of its quarterly newsletters from the intranet to internet. Up to now, a private intranet network has been used for training and support of safeguarding staff and volunteers just within the OoS - this has now been largely achieved. With OoS newsletter articles becoming broader in content and more suitable for a wider target audience, distribution will be best achieved through the internet with its broad global access.

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.

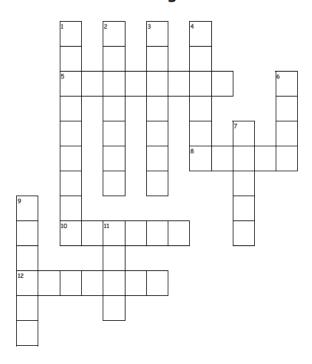
THE CHUCKLE

In a parish far from here, there was a priest who, on Palm Sunday, gave out miniature palm crosses that he made by hand. "Put this cross in the room where your family argues most," he advised. "When you look at it, the cross will remind you that God is watching." When the parishioners were leaving the church, a woman walked up to the priest, shook his hand and said, "I'll take five."

CROSSWORD

Blessed is the king who comes in the name of the Lord!

Lk 19: 28-40



Across

- 5: talking loudly
- 8: the opposite of old
- 10: to stretch out and cover
- 12: a small town

Down

- 1: followers of Jesus
- 2: these were placed on the ground before Jesus as he rode into Jerusalem
- 3: loosening a rope or string binding
- 4: the animal that carried Jesus on its back
- 6: a male monarch
- 7: when there is little or no noise
- 9: where we go when we die
- 11: a passage for travelling

Passion Sunday, Year C [N00HOPAC_2004_CW3.rtf]

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JUNIOR WORDSEARCH

The passion of our Lord Jesus Christ

Lk 23: 1-49

В	٧	K	Ι	N	5	U	L	Т	Ε	D	В	0	W
Q	Z	J	M	G	I	J	D	W	R	W	M	M	Ι
D	٧	C	Z	W	W	Т	K	Α	R	Q	В	Р	Ν
U	Н	R	У	W	G	0	5	У	Н	C	Α	Α	Ε
M	Ε	0	Z	Т	M	Ν	F	٧	D	R	R	F	Т
Ι	У	S	G	Α	M	В	L	Ε	D	Ι	Α	0	R
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M	D	D	Z	У	Р	G	Н	G	R	I	В	G	Ι
Р	U	Ν	I	5	Н	M	Ε	Ν	Т	Ν	Α	Ι	L
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У	W	Z	Н	F	5	Α	٧	Е	٧	L	U	Ε	Т
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У	Т	٧	S	0	L	D	I	Ε	R	5	В	Н	X

Try to find these words:

Barabbas

criminals

cross

forgive

gambled

insulted

paradise

Pilate

punishment

save

soldiers

wine

REFLECTION BY RICHARD LEONARD

The crowd who cheered on Palm Sunday proved to be a fickle lot. It took them no time at all to move from the cries of adulation of Palm Sunday to the derision of Good Friday, and back again, with frightening speed. What is most worrying, however, is that we can do the same just as easily.

The reality is that Palm Sunday is not a yearly historical pageant. It is the day when we hear proclaimed that:

- our God knows what it's like to be heralded on Sunday and condemned on Friday;
- our God loved us so much that he laid down his own life so that we might live;
- our God showed us that the price of walking on palm branches is in the taking up of the cross.

And how do we do that? How do we face all the Calvarys of our world and be Christ-like?

In the Passion we are told that Jesus did five things:

- He healed the ear of the High Priest's servant;
- He spoke the truth to Pilate;
- He empathised with the women of Jerusalem;
- He forgave those who condemned him;
- He had compassion toward the other criminal being crucified.

And here's the rub: in facing our personal passion and being with those who face their Calvary we are called to do likewise.

If Holy Week means anything it means we end this week as we began it – processing. Walking away from inflicting pain to being a healer, desisting with lies and speaking the truth, resisting the temptation to judge and embracing empathy as our first response and, always and everywhere, being generous with forgiveness and compassion. No more and no less is asked of us if we are to follow 'the King of Love on Calvary'.

© Richard Leonard SJ

Richard Leonard SJ is the Director of the Australian Catholic Office for Film and Broadcasting, is a member of the Australian Catholic Media Council and a film critic for all the major Australian Catholic newspapers.



They cast lots for my robe.
O Lord, do not leave me alone,
my strength, make haste to help
me! (R.)

4. I will tell of your name to my brethren



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