

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 20TH APRIL 2025 EASTER SUNDAY OF THE RESURRECTION, YEAR C

Our Clergy

Fr Greg Barker, Parish Priest Fr Anthony Coloma, Assistant Priest 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

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

Bereavement Team:

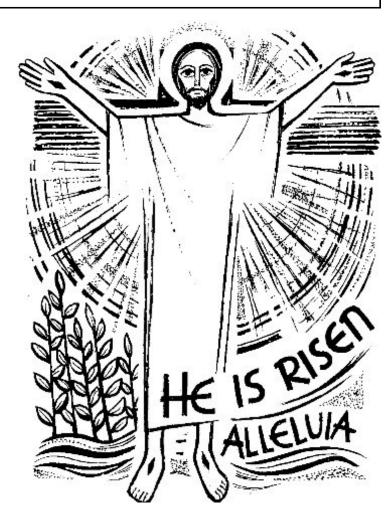
Margaret Cox, Gail Lovell, Christopher Gregory, Margaret Beard, Margaret Newton, Anne Millard (02) 4979 1252

St Joseph's Pastoral Team:

Contact the Parish Office

Promoters of Safeguarding

Positions vacant - Please see notice on page 5.



BISHOP MICHAEL'S EASTER MESSAGE

Use the QR code to the right to access Bishop Michael's Easter message.



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)

The Octave of Easter

Monday 21 April

8:15am Mass @ The Cathedral

Tuesday 22 April (Cathedral closed for maintenance)

9:00am Mass @ Stockton

10:30am Mass @ Badcoe Aged Care

Wednesday 23 April (Cathedral closed for maintenance)

9:00am Mass @ Mayfield West

11:00am Funeral Mass for Dennis Harvey at

Stockton

Thursday 24 April

8:15am Mass @ The Cathedral

9:00am Mass @ Stockton

5:30pm Mass @ Seafarers Mission, Wickham

Friday 25 April - Anzac Day

8:00am Mass @ The Cathedral

Saturday 26 April

9.15am Mass @ The Cathedral, followed by the

Novena to Our Lady of Perpetual Help,

followed by Reconciliation

2nd Sunday of Easter

Saturday 26 April

5:30pm Vigil Mass @ The Cathedral

5:30pm Vigil Mass @ The Junction

5:30pm Vigil Mass @ Mayfield West

Sunday 27 April

7:30am Mass @ St Mary's

8:00am Mass @ Tighes Hill

9:00am Mass @ Stockton

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

(No Mass 27 Apr, next Mass 4 May)

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.



NEXT WEEK'S READINGS: Easter Sunday, Year C

Acts 5:12-16 Revelation 1:9-13, 17-19 John 20:19-31

PRAYER REQUESTS

RECENTLY DECEASED: Brian Smith, Dennis Harvey, Clare Martin, Leone Clifton

ANNIVERSARIES: Tom Towers, Nino

D'Andrea, Claudio D'Andrea, Darcy Keogh, Ray Keogh, Monica Gebbie, Eric Schmitzer, Patrick O'Neill, Clem Casey, Ted Hanson, Jim Rabbitt, Doug Delaney, Tony

Tamplin (Jnr), Sr Anne Murray rsm

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, 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.ora.au/downloads.

PLEASE KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS:



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

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
Mary Duggan	Laurel May Murray
Kathleen Gibson	Nola Margaret Phillips
Monica Hayes	Frank Keith Pilgrim
Joy Patricia Jarrett	Sandra Rufo
Mary Noreen Long	Henrietta Vujeva
Alice Martin	Elaine Iris Wilson

At St Joseph's:

Patricia Mather

Michael Johns	Warren Kelly						
John Joseph Willcock	Milheim Lettoof						
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						
Kathleen Hiscox	Jim Heaney						

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

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

FROM THE PARISH PRIEST

Dear Parish Family,

He is Risen! Alleluia, Alleluia! Happy Easter!

Congratulations to all our Elect and Candidates who are being baptised or received and who are completing their sacraments of



initiation. Over the next few weeks, you will get a wonderful opportunity to experience the welcome, celebration, and generosity of this parish community. I know they join with me in joy in saying to you, congratulations, welcome home.

Every part of the Easter Ceremonies has that sense of coming and being home. In medieval times, through to the 18th and 19th Centuries in many countries as sailors set out to sea, their families would light a lantern each night and place it in the front window of the house. A light to guide their loved one home. Christ is our light, sitting in the front window of our 'house,' guiding the traveller, the explorer, the lost, the family member to the safety and sanctuary of home! Just like the sailor's family we pray as we keep that light protected that those that are lost or at 'sea' will find their way home.

And we sing at the Vigil, as the Paschal candle lit from the Easter fire is carried into the darkened church, to remind ourselves and to declare our lantern alight 'Christ Our Light, Thanks be to God!'

In our community we have many who are a long way from their ancestral home. Some of course by the choice of migration, some forced as refugees, some due to work. Some of us are estranged from loved ones, some by some fault or failure, some through the actions of another, some by circumstance. Some of us may not celebrate Easter with our family as we work in essential and sometimes non-essential services but all making sure food and shelter are there for the family. For families estranged or away from children and grandchildren it can be a tough time. If you are not with your own family, it can be a sad time even amid Easter joy. Tread softly today and be gentle on yourself and others.

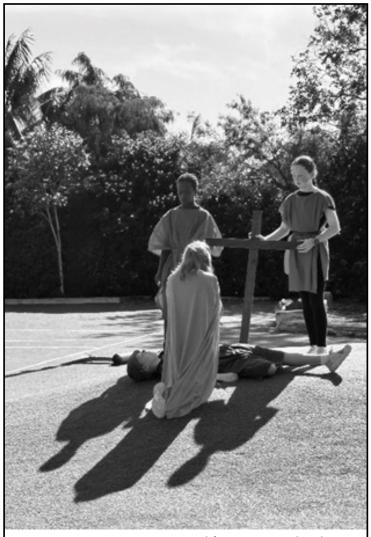
Easter looks different in different countries and cultures. I look forward to sharing some of the variety of difference we have over the years we journey together through the various seasons. Our own culture and way of doing things can give great comfort in the seasons such as Easter, especially when away from family. Sharing with friends and neighbours is a wonderful way of bringing joy to the Easter season.

I pray that regardless of how you celebrate, in joy or

sadness, with or without family, with friends or work mates or on your own, that you know we are your family too, here and for each other. The 'Light' is always in the front room of this house, and you are always welcome.

He is Risen! Alleluia, Alleluia! Happy Easter!

Greg, Parish Priest.



Easter Liturgy at St Joseph's Primary School... Friday, 11 April 2025

CATHOLIC RELIGIOUS AUSTRALIA (CRA)

CRA, the peak body representing Leaders of 150 Religious Institutes in Australia, has released a resource to assist Australians to consider critical issues that have bearing on Australia's forthcoming Federal Election. It contains 4 focus justice issues:

- Climate change: go to https://tinyurl.com/ CRAclimatechange
- Cost of living: go to https://tinyurl.com/ CRAcostofliving
- Refugees and Asylum seekers: go to https://tinyurl.com/CRArefugees
- 4. First Australians: go to https://tinyurl.com/ CRAfirstaustralians



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.

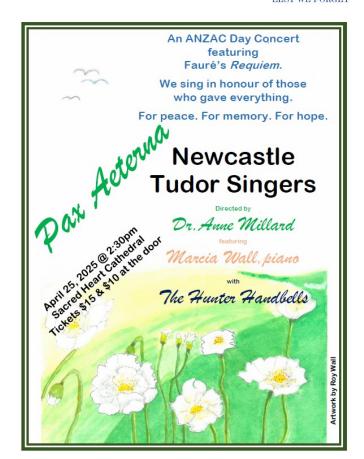
ANZAC DAY

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.





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.

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.

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.

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.

PARISH OFFICE CLOSURE

The Parish Office is closed from Good Friday 18 April until Easter Monday 21 April, inclusive. The Team here wish you all a happy, holy, and safe celebration of Easter.

The Office will be closed Fri 25 April for Anzac Day.

PARISH CENSUS & PLANNED GIVING FORMS

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



https://tinyurl.com/newcparishcensus

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.



DIOCESAN LOCAL CHURCHES PILGRIMAGE



Our Jubilee Year is now well underway, and our eight local sites of pilgrimage are open and ready for you.

Pick up a passport at any church along the way. Visit one or visit them all.

Collect your stamp, and on each page, re-affirm the spiritual journey you've committed to this Jubilee Year. An indulgence is on offer with prayer, Eucharist and acts of mercy.

We have a very special long weekend planned for you. If the idea of visiting all eight local sites of pilgrimage in the diocese is a little daunting. Mission & Evangelisation has done all the hard work for you. In just a few weeks on Friday 16, Saturday 17 and Sunday 18 May, we will journey with you over three days as each church hosts us for Mass, prayer, confession and good old-fashioned hospitality. This will be a chance to get your entire passport complete and meet countless new people along the way.

Check out our Itinerary below and go to https://tinyurl.com/8churchspilgrimage or use the QR code to register.

Friday 16 May

Our Lady of the Rosary Church, Taree

- 9.00am Sacrament of Penance
- 10.00am Mass, and morning tea hosted by parish

Saturday 17 May

Sacred Heart Cathedral. Newcastle West

- 8.30am Sacrament of Penance
- 9.15am Mass and morning tea hosted by parish

St Mary's Star of the Sea, Newcastle

• 11.00am Formation/Prayer

St Brigid's and St Patrick's, Cooranbong

• 1.00pm Formation/Prayer, and BYO picnic lunch in the grounds. Tea and Coffee provided by the parish

St John's the Baptist Shrine, Maitland

• 3.15pm Formation/Prayer

St Joseph's, East Maitland

5.00pm Mass, and sausage sizzle with tea and coffee hosted by parish

Sunday 18 May

Blessed Virgin Mary Queen of Peace Church, Scone

- 8.30am Sacrament of Penance
- 9.00am Mass, and morning tea hosted by parish

St Joseph's, Murrurundi

• 12:00pm Mass, and BYO lunch



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 us 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 of 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!

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. (Not on 23 April due to Cathedral maintenance)

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.

ST JOSEPH'S CHURCH

St Joseph's at The Junction is open on weekdays from around 8.30am to 3.30pm. The door between the church and the parish centre will be open.



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.

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:





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.

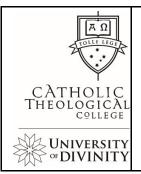
All resources are available to borrow; and are searchable on the library catalogue, which can be accessed through this link: https://tinyurl.com/DOMNLibrary
OR use the QR code to the right.



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



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

This week, your attention is drawn to the **role of Australian Catholic Safeguarding Ltd (ACSL).** ACSL has been created to promote and oversee a nationally consistent, comprehensive and sustainable framework for the protection of children and at-risk adults within the Church in Australia. The ACSL has zero tolerance of abuse and works to ensure a safe Church for all.

The findings of the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse place responsibility on the Catholic Church to demonstrate greater respect, care and protection for everyone who places their trust in the Church and to comply with legislative obligations in safeguarding and professional standards.

ACSL develops integrated safeguarding services to promote safe environments for children and vulnerable adults, including:

- providing advice to Church Authorities about their safeguarding responsibilities
- providing tailored education and professional development programs
- training of Professional Standards and Safeguarding Officers
- monitoring the implementation of the National Catholic Safeguarding Standards
- managing databases related to Church safeguarding
- overseeing the management of complaints against Church Authorities
- providing independent audit and review certification of safeguarding programs

FROM POPE FRANCIS

"Dear brothers and sisters, let us not be closed to the newness that God wants to bring into our lives! Are we often weary, disheartened and sad? Do we feel weighed down by our sins? Do we think that we won't be able to cope? Let us not close our hearts, let us not lose confidence, let us never give up: there are no

situations which God cannot change, there is no sin which he cannot forgive if only we open ourselves to him."

From the Pope's homily during the first Easter Vigil of his pontificate.



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Try to find these words:

cloth dark entrance face life linen

Mary Peter

Scriptures

stone taken tomb

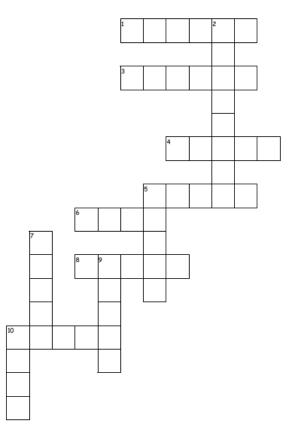
Easter Sunday, Year A, B and C [N01EASUI_2004_WSG.rtf]

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CROSSWORD

All who have faith in Jesus will have their sins forgiven

Acts 10:34a, 37-43 Ps 118:1-2, 15c-16ab & 17, 22-23 Jn 20:1-9



Across

- 1: selected
- 3: lifted up
- 4: Jesus was nailed to one of these
- 5: a type of cotton fabric
- 6: she was the first to notice that Jesus' body was missing
- 8: this covered the entrance to Jesus' tomb
- 10: Jesus rose from the dead after this many days

Down

- 2: all people
- 5: reclining, resting down
- 7: belief
- 9: removed
- 10: burial chamber

REFLECTION BY FR MICHAEL TATE

Dawn has Broken - The Son is Risen

Women go to the tomb as dawn is breaking. The Power of Darkness which had Jesus unjustly sentenced, cruelly tortured and buried in the pitch blackness of the tomb, is conquered by the Son-Rise of all sun rises flooding our world and the whole of human history with Divine Light and Energy.

This is the heart of our faith as Catholic Christians, which we celebrate with bon-fire (good fire) in darkness at the Easter Vigil. From that earthly element we light the Easter candle and the Exsultet is sung: 'Be glad, let earth be glad as glory floods her, ablaze with light from her eternal King.'

The resurrection itself is nowhere described in the gospels, but we do have appearances of the Risen Lord Jesus. The first appearance was to a woman, Mary of Magdala. A title given to her by the early church was 'Apostle to the Apostles' because she was the bearer of the message which the male disciples initially did not believe. But eventually they too believed that Death had been done to death because the Son had risen.

Christ's body was transfigured by the energy of Divine Love and we can, by grace, participate in that resurrection life of Our Lord. A glorious destiny awaits us, as indeed it awaits the whole cosmos as it is to be transformed by that resurrection life recreating the whole of creation.

We could take a moment to pray that we, along with all that matters, are graced with the life-giving energy of the Risen Son and that we may join Mary of Magdala in spreading the Good News of Christ's victory over death. Alleluia!

© Fr Michael Tate

Rev Prof Michael Tate graduated in Law from the University of Tasmania in 1968, and in Theology from Oxford University in 1971. He lectured at the University of Tasmania from 1972-78, being Dean of the Faculty of Law in 1977-78. He was a Senator for Tasmania from 1978-93. He served as Ambassador to The Hague and the Holy See from 1993-96. He then returned to Australia and was ordained in May 2000 and has been a parish priest in the Archdiocese of Hobart since then.



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