



# 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.

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

## SUNDAY 18TH MAY 2025 5TH SUNDAY OF EASTER, YEAR C

### A Prayer for Pope Leo XIV

AND HIS INSTALLATION AS BISHOP OF ROME

Gracious and loving God,

we thank you for the blessing of Pope Leo XIV,  
chosen to shepherd your Church in these times.  
Guide him as he walks in the footsteps of St. Peter,  
that he may lead with humility, wisdom, and strength.

You have called him to a sacred task—

To shepherd your people ,  
to serve with tenderness and compassion,  
and to proclaim the Gospel boldly and with joy.

Guide him as he builds your Church  
into a sacrament of unity, love, and peace for all the world,  
by governing with fidelity,  
those entrusted to his care.

Strengthen him with grace and courage,  
right judgement, knowledge, and truth,  
inspired by your Holy Spirit,  
and by the maternal care of the Blessed Virgin Mary,  
and the prayers of all the saints.

Through Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**



**"I give you a new  
commandment:  
love one another;  
just as I have loved you,  
you also must love one  
another".**

John 13:34

### 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](mailto:newcparish@mn.catholic.org.au)

W: [www.newcastlecatholic.org.au](http://www.newcastlecatholic.org.au)

W: [www.sacredhearthamilton.org.au](http://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 Teclé (*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

### 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)

### 5th week of Easter

Monday 19 May

8:15am Mass @ The Cathedral

Tuesday 20 May

8:15am Mass @ The Cathedral

9:00am Mass @ Stockton

11:00am Mass @ Moran Aged Care, Stockton

6:00pm Confirmation @ The Cathedral

Wednesday 21 May

8:15am Mass @ The Cathedral

9:00am Mass @ Mayfield West

Thursday 22 May

8:15am Mass @ The Cathedral

9:00am Mass @ Stockton

Friday 23 May

10:15am Mass @ The Junction

11:00am Exposition, Adoration & Reconciliation @ The Cathedral (until 12pm)

12:05pm Mass @ The Cathedral

6:00pm Confirmation @ Mayfield West

Saturday 24 May *Our Lady Help of Christians*

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

11:00am Marian Prayer and Reflection @ St Mary's

### 6th Sunday of Easter

Saturday 24 May

5:30pm Vigil Mass @ The Cathedral

5:30pm Vigil Mass @ The Junction

5:30pm Vigil Mass @ Mayfield West

Sunday 25 May

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 25 May, next Mass 8 June)

\* Livestreamed on the Cathedral's YouTube channel—  
[www.youtube.com/c/SacredHeartCathedralHamilton](http://www.youtube.com/c/SacredHeartCathedralHamilton) and on the Diocesan website.



## NEXT WEEK'S READINGS:

Acts 15:1-2, 22-29

Revelation 21:10-14, 22-23

John 14:23-29

## PRAYER REQUESTS



**RECENTLY DECEASED:** Corey Jay Gilchrist, Rashmi Vasanji, Debbie Staddon, Patrick Kirsch

**ANNIVERSARIES:** Doris Power, Yolanda Vas, Sean Roche, Carmel Walker, Eileen Russell, Maureen Dixon, Clarrie Holland, Carmel Webber, Brian Belotti, Mary McIntyre, Len Griffiths, Arthur Smith

**PRAYERS FOR THE SICK:** Wilma Smart, Bill Murphy, Braxton Rayner, Patricia Gillett, Carlo Rossi, Tui Innes, Sr Ann Daley rsj, Patrick Theodore, Jean Luc, Angela Cottier, Raymond Morley, Louise Hall, Phil Riordan, Twon Nguyen, Margaret Cox

## CURSILLO ANNIVERSARY MASS

Cursillo is celebrating 55 years in the Maitland-Newcastle Diocese at the 9.30am Mass at Sacred Heart Cathedral today, followed by morning tea.



## IMPORTANT! ADVICE TO MAYFIELD WEST AND STOCKTON WEEKDAY MASS-GOERS...

Due to a Clergy Conference on Wednesday 28 May and Thursday 29 May, we have to cancel the usual 9.00am Wednesday Mass at Mayfield West and the 9.00am Thursday Mass at Stockton on the respective days.

## OUR BELOVED DEAD

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

### At Sacred Heart Cathedral:

Margaret Azzopardi

Joyce Callaghan

Michael Clement Daley

Marjorie Hardy

Ian King

Mario Malaspina

Gerard McCosker

Cyril O'Neill

Lorna Pearl Roberts

Barbara Smith

Beryl Smith

### At St Joseph's:

Edith Isabel Fahey

Violet Ernst

Mollie Buckland

Anne Marie Gilroy

John Hogg

Margaret Kelly

Maureen Maher

Paul-Elizabeth McNamara

John Joseph Skehan

Francis Smith

Eunice Smyth

Meryl Ryan

Jack Robinson

Charles Tynan

Frederick Wilson

Geoff Young

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

## FROM THE PARISH PRIEST

Dear Parish Family,

We welcome to the Cathedral this weekend **Cursillo** groups as they celebrate 60 years of the English-speaking movement officially in Australia. Originally brought to Australia with Spanish migrants in the early 60s the movement transitioned to English with the help of four of those migrants who could speak English here in NSW. Two came from Melbourne and would you believe one came from . . . **Tasmania!!** to run the first Cursillo weekend in . . . **Armidale!!!** Must be more than a coincidence right! I know that as they celebrate with us, they will find great joy in our community and make many new friends. Congratulations to all the Cursillistas on this milestone!



This coming week, **Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> May at 6.00pm**, we also celebrate the first of our **Confirmations**. There are three, two in Sacred Heart Cathedral and one in Christ the King, Mayfield West. Friday saw many of those being Confirmed attend a retreat day. These days are important for helping our young people deepen their relationship with Christ and confirm their membership as members of our Church. The Confirmations themselves are the perfect way for us older members to celebrate, support and encourage those coming behind us and for whom we hope they will take up the mantle of Christian life and continue to bring about with God's help His kingdom. We can't do any of that with them unless we show up to the table/party. So please pop the 20<sup>th</sup>, 23<sup>rd</sup> (Mayfield West) and/or 29<sup>th</sup> May (Cathedral) in your diaries. I hear all the time we don't do enough to support and encourage our young people, well here are three great opportunities.

**EPIC (Everything Possible in Christ)**, our young adult group are hosting after the 5.00pm Mass on *Sunday 25 May* a pizza dinner with great conversation – come for a **SLICE OF HEAVEN, a gathering to connect, build community and enjoy dinner on us!** Open to everyone but if you are between 18 – 35 we would particularly love you to attend. It's free. Our EPIC members will be on hand to assist you to find your slice of Pizza! If you are able use the QR code on the flyer or in the bulletin to register your interest in a **SLICE OF HEAVEN** or two!

Don't forget that **Couples for Christ** will be gathering this Sunday (18<sup>th</sup> May). Some of you will have heard from the coordinators of this movement last Sunday. This Sunday is an opportunity to learn more and to get a taste of how it might support your life and faith. It is a movement open to singles as well as couples. I took this from their website: 'CFC is a lay Catholic

community comprising of couples and their families, kids, youth, singles, and matured men and women, moved by the Holy Spirit, one with the Catholic Church, blessed to witness to Christ's love and service, Couples for Christ is a united global community of family evangelizers that sets the world on fire with the fullness of God's transforming love.' It will begin straight after the 9.30am Mass (10:30am) with brunch and conclude with a closing message and prayer at 2.05pm.

Something for everyone to celebrate, support, encourage and be uplifted in God's love. With all this wet weather please let me know if you see the animals starting to gather in pairs!

*Greg,* Parish Priest.

### SLICE OF HEAVEN: A COMMUNITY GATHERING FOR YOUNG ADULTS



All young adults (18-35) invited to a relaxed night of fellowship, free pizza, and conversations with friends old and new, hosted by EPIC. We can't wait to see you there!

**When:** 25th May at 6pm, following 5pm Mass

**Where:** Sacred Heart Cathedral



Please scan the QR code for expressions of interest.

For more information, please contact Jeni on 0431 455 122.

### CELEBRATE 10 YEARS OF POPE FRANCIS' LETTER ON THE ENVIRONMENT

A prayer service at Immaculate Heart of Mary Church, 16 Tighes Terrace, Tighes Hill to celebrate the 10th anniversary of Pope Francis' call to Care for our Common Home (*Laudato Si*) and the launch of the 'Plant Hope with Red Cedar Trees' project.

10am on Saturday 24 May 2025 followed by morning tea.

### KAIROS PRISON MINISTRY AUSTRALIA

*Helping those impacted by incarceration, through the love, hope and faith found in Jesus Christ.*

The Kairos team will begin next week a weeklong program in St Heliers Correctional Centre in Muswellbrook. A number of the team are members of our Parish Community. Please support them with your prayers.

"I was in prison and you came to visit me." Matthew 25:36





## PARISH LUNCHEON



Parish Luncheon at Souths Leagues Club, Llewellyn St, Merewether @ 12.30pm on Monday 19th May. All welcome. Inquiries to Maureen (Tighes Hill) on 0412 673 151.

## ST VINCENT DE PAUL WINTER APPEAL

Vinnies' winter appeal is coming soon to a church near you.



## BOOK CLUB



**Book Club** meets Sunday 2 June to discuss *The Benevolent Society of Ill Mannered Ladies* by Alison Goodman. If you would like to participate in book club meetings, please email: [newcparish@mn.catholic.org.au](mailto:newcparish@mn.catholic.org.au)

## DIOCESAN EVENTS PAGE



Check out the Diocesan events page - <https://tinyurl.com/cdmnevents> - it's worth bookmarking. Events currently advertised:

- 1 May to 30 June: Tighes Hill Community Garden—Plant hope with free red cedar trees, recognising the 10th anniversary of *Laudato Si*
- *Called and Gifted* online discernment program, beginning 10 June
- Diocesan local churches pilgrimage 16 - 18 May
- Cursillo anniversary 18 May
- 1700th anniversary of the Nicene Creed 23 May
- LGBTIQ Catholic Forum Lunch 25 May
- Jubilee Art Exhibition 31 May



## 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, 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* Bible study group is not meeting this coming Wednesday 21 May. The final session will be on Wednesday 28 May @ 10am in the CRCC Meeting Room, at the Junction.

## CHANGE IN MASS TIME ON 30 MAY

On Friday 30 May, the **usual 12.05pm Mass will be at 10.00am**, with confessions from 9.00am, due to a liturgy for Catholic Schools Week on that day.

## VIEW, CHEW, AND CHAT

View, Chew, and Chat meets on 21 May for Lectio Divina. There will be no meeting on 28 May. On June 4 we begin a new series on the Gospel of Matthew. All welcome! 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. All welcome. Please contact Janet on 0435 518 671.

## 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.

## MAKE AN IMPACT—VOLUNTEER ABROAD!

Use your knowledge to build self-reliance for those with little opportunity.

Join Palms online for a special session showcasing how skill-exchange makes a lasting impact in communities, from those who've done it before. Explore our unique opportunities and match your life experience to the experience of a lifetime!

**Venue:** Online- Scan the QR or register at [palms.org.au/events](https://palms.org.au/events)

**Date:** Thursday 22 May 2025

**Time:** 6 pm – 7 pm



## JUBILEE PILGRIMAGE



**St Benedict's Inner Newcastle Parish** has two churches among the local pilgrimage sites: Sacred Heart Cathedral, Newcastle West, and St Mary's, Newcastle.

### Pilgrimage to Sacred Heart Cathedral

While the Cathedral is open to all every day of the year, we have added a special opportunity for prayer during the Jubilee Year. Join us for Vespers at 5pm on the first Thursday of each month, concluding in November: Remaining dates are June 5, July 3, August 7, September 4, October 2, November 6.

Vespers (also called Evening Prayer) is part of the Liturgy of the Hours, also known as the Divine Office.

### You're Invited: A Pilgrimage in the Month of Mary

Join us at St Mary's, Newcastle each Saturday in May (the month of Mary) between 11am and noon to spend a gentle hour in prayer and reflection on Our Lady.

May is traditionally celebrated as the Month of Mary in the Catholic Church—a time to deepen our understanding of her role, virtues, and significance in our faith. These gatherings offer a beautiful opportunity to draw closer to Mary and to one another in shared devotion.

Whether you are seeking quiet reflection, communal prayer, or simply a space of peace, come be part of this special time. Let this be part of your personal pilgrimage with Mary, at St Mary's, in May.

## YOUNG ADULT RETREAT 2025

Calling all young adults in the Catholic Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle **to the Young Adults Retreat 2025!** A dynamic annual event designed for young people by young people, join us for a weekend to meet young people from all around the diocese, and experience Catholic community, worship, inputs by expert speakers, the Sacraments, and an opportunity to encounter Christ's personal love!

**WHO:** 18-35; children of participants also welcome

**WHEN:** 27-29 June 2025; 6pm dinner on Fri 27 June - 12:30pm on Sun 29 June

**WHERE:** Catalina Lakefront Retreat, Rathmines NSW

**COST:** \$170 per person, including food & accommodation; food options available. Sponsorship available for financial hardship.

Register at [YAR25.eventbrite.com.au](https://YAR25.eventbrite.com.au) or the Diocesan website's 'Events' page, or email:

[mission@mn.catholic.org.au](mailto:mission@mn.catholic.org.au) with any queries.

## SPECIAL RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

### - JOIN THE TEAM!

The Teachers of Special Religious Education in our Diocese undertake a vital evangelising role, educating children and young people and forming them in the Catholic faith.

Fortunately, there are amazing, generous people who play an important role in contributing to the formation of children.

Unfortunately, there are not enough teachers to meet the demands of all the classes needed. Many children are missing out.

The Mission & Evangelisation Team are offering free training and encouragement sessions for anyone who might be interested in learning about SRE. Please consider joining us. If you have any questions feel free to contact:

Nicki Graham: ph 0417 773 444 or  
[nicola.graham@mn.catholic.org.au](mailto:nicola.graham@mn.catholic.org.au)



## 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.

## THE CHUCKLE

My grandson was visiting one day when he asked, "Grandma, do you know how you and God are alike?"

I mentally polished my halo while I asked, "No, how are we alike?"

"You're both old," he replied.



## CHRISTIAN LIFE PROGRAM



*Couples for Christ Australia*, cordially invites you to a series of inspiring talks about living in the Christian faith!

The programme will run for seven Sundays, starting 18 May 2025 to 29 June 2025, 11:30am – 2:30pm in the Toohey and Murray rooms near the Sacred Heart Cathedral, 841 Hunter Street, Newcastle West.

This is for everyone seeking happiness and a deeper relationship with Jesus Christ. With free brunch and childminding right after the morning Mass. Come with your family and friends. All are welcome!

For more information, contact:

Lina and Joe Josue 0408 611 490

Cory and Barry Taylor 02 4966 4031

Jo/Ted Celestino 0420 462 953

Phoebe/Chester Salcedo 0410 128 406

### SAVE THE DATE!

Parish Assembly will be held in the Victor Peter Suite and Southern Cross hall on Sunday 1 November from 9.30! A time for reflecting, praying and planning our future together.

### NOTICE TO PLANNED GIVERS - THE END OF THE FINANCIAL YEAR IS APPROACHING!

Parishioners who require a tax receipt for Planned Giving for the 2024/2025 financial year must notify the Parish Office **by Monday, 30 June 2025**. Please submit requests in writing by one of the following methods:

- **Email to [newcparish@mn.catholic.org.au](mailto:newcparish@mn.catholic.org.au):** Use the wording, *"Please provide me with a Planned Giving tax receipt"* and include your name and envelope number. **OR:**
- **Planned Giving Envelope:** Write on your weekly envelope, *"Tax receipt required"*.

Tax receipt data will be processed immediately following 30 June 2025. If you make a request after that date, you will not be eligible for a receipt nor a tax deduction in relation to your Planned Giving contributions. This is because there is a designated sum that can be attributed to Planned Giving receipts and, once this distribution has occurred, no further allocations are possible.

The 'designated sum' provision also means that the claimable amount for each giver decreases when more people request a receipt. We therefore ask that if you do not intend to claim a tax deduction, please do not request a receipt.

## REFLECTION BY FR MICHAEL TATE

*'Love one another as I have loved you.'* You may think that Our Lord's extravagant extreme of love in voluntarily undergoing death for us, is something no human being could ever measure up to.

But actually, something like this happens whenever a mother or father sits by the bedside of a child suffering the terrible pain of a chronic illness or traumatic accident and, perhaps, even facing the prospect of death. Such a parent will invariably say 'I would rather suffer and die than see my child suffer and die.'

Each of us, usually to a lesser degree and in less fraught circumstances, has the opportunity to absorb, to some extent, the sufferings of others. We are thus given the possibility of fulfilling the command: 'Love one another as I have loved you.'

The effect of this sort of loving will be realised at the end of history, not in a garden of Paradise, but as in a wonderful City where all tears will be wiped from our eyes.

We could pause for a moment on our way to that future City, resolving to be alert to opportunities to fulfil our Lord's command: 'Love one another as I have loved you.'

### 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.



### 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.

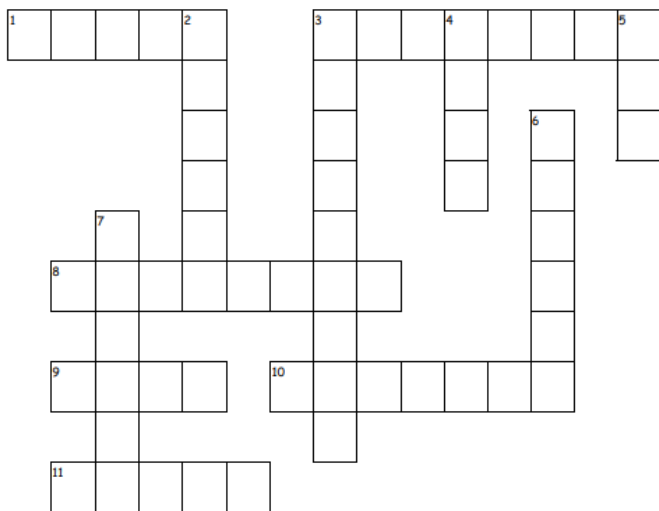
### SAFEGUARDING

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](mailto:childprotection@mn.catholic.org.au) or [www.officeofsafeguarding.org.au](http://www.officeofsafeguarding.org.au)

## CROSSWORD

### God will help us preach the good news

Acts 14:21-27  
Ps 145:8-9, 10 and 12 R.v.(see 1)  
Rv 21:1-4  
Jn 13:31a, 33-35



#### Across

- 1: the disciple who betrayed Jesus  
3: we are all called God's \_\_\_\_\_  
8: places where Christians gather together to pray  
9: Jesus asks us to \_\_\_\_\_ one another  
10: a marriage celebration  
11: crying produces these

#### Down

- 2: experience pain or distress  
3: finished  
4: see, or search  
5: Jesus gave his disciples a \_\_\_\_\_ command  
6: the opposite of receiving  
7: the seat where a king sits

## JUNIOR WORDSEARCH

### Love one another

Jn 13:31a, 33-35

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

Try to find these words:

cannot  
children  
everyone  
find  
giving  
going  
Judas  
little  
look  
love  
new  
told



## REFLECTION BY RICHARD LEONARD

The word *love* has to be the most misused word in our language. We often say we love our house, our car, our holiday or even ice cream. Then we use exactly the same word to describe our feelings for our spouse, family, friends or children. If language is a window into meaning, then we are in strife at the loose way we transfer the same word for vastly different feelings and realities. At least I hope we feel differently about people over possessions.

The love Jesus encourages us to have in today's Gospel is a very particular love. He tells us not just to love one another, but to 'love as I have loved you'. The core of Jesus' love for us is sacrificial love, where he laid down his life that we might live. While love is a popular word, and even more popular notion, in our music, film, art and literature, sacrificial love is not something we hear much about these days or that we embrace very easily. Loving someone in the popular imagination has come to mean hanging in there until someone better comes along, or we grow bored of each other sexually or personally. Often it entails keeping the exit door on commitment nice and handy for the quick get away.

Sacrificial love is demonstrated in deeds not words. It states that there is no point in saying we love anyone unless our actions follow the profession we make. Sacrificial love is not just about warm and fuzzy feelings; it is an intensely practical affair where our love is judged by our gentleness, kindness and patience with each other. Christian love is not arrogant or rude, it does not drag other people down, but rejoices and weeps when others are successful or downhearted. Loving as Jesus has loved means telling the truth with compassion, forgiving, working at trust and holding on to faith in the face of difficult times. Jesus does not promise us that this commandment is easy, just necessary if we are to love as he loves us. While sacrificial love demands of us that we die unto self, Jesus never asked us to 'kill' ourselves. The distinction matters. All too often the Church has been guilty of giving out this teaching in a way that people thought they should put up with violent, undignified and soul-destroying behaviour from their spouse, children, parents, family or friends. Sacrificial love is never destructive. It is a free gift where we sometimes forego other options, opportunities and even good things for a love and life that is even better. The Lord laid down his life for us and in turn the Father raised him up to a glorified life. What's true for him is true for us. We lay down our lives for each other so we can take up a new and richer life.

© Richard Leonard SJ

## 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](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)

### St Francis Xavier's College

Greg Ptolemy (*Principal*)

Parkway Avenue, Hamilton NSW 2303

P:(02) 4961 2863

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

## 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](mailto:newcparish@mn.catholic.org.au), including the church you usually attend, indicating your permission for us to record your email address.

