



THE EPIPHANY YEAR B 07 JANUARY 2024

Today we hear the story of the Magi who, guided by the light of a star, came to Bethlehem to honour the Christ child.

There is little to be gained by speculating where the Magi came from, and exactly what the star was. Most scholars agree that the theological significance of the star far outweighs any scientific explanation. For their willingness to stand with Jesus, the magi are venerated as the first among the gentiles to believe.

The Magi can serve as models for us on our faith journey. They were single minded and refused to be put off by difficulties and hardships. Their journey was neither simple nor easy. They encountered difficulties doubts and dangers. Yet in spite of this they persevered in their quest and found Christ.

In what ways do we serve as a sign, that leads others to God?



We acknowledge the traditional custodians of this land, the Awabakal People who, long before us lived, loved, educated and raised their children on this Country. We pay our respects to Elders past and present and we recognise the young people who are our future. We acknowledge all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander families in our communities. We respect their deep physical and spiritual connections to Country through their stories, traditions and living cultures.

PARISH LEADERSHIP TEAM: Uta France
John France

PRIEST SUPERVISOR: Fr Joseph Figuardo
SACRAMENTAL PRIEST: Fr John Purnell

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL: Juliet Hutchins
Mal Melvey
Pam Melvey
Kerry Lendon
Rod Hay

PARISH SECRETARY: Rosanna Suckling

OFFICE: 60 Yambo Street, Morisset, PO Box 87, Ph: 02 4973.6859
Office Hours: 9.00 am to 2.00pm—Monday to Friday (*except public holidays*)
(We ask that you make an appointment to come to the office)
Morisset Parish Office email: morparish@mn.catholic.org.au
Morisset Parish Web site: www.vianneymorisset.org
Morisset Parish Facebook : <https://www.facebook.com/stjvparish>
Morisset Parish Instagram : https://www.instagram.com/stjvparish_morisset/
Morisset Parish Bulletin Items: morparish@mn.catholic.org.au
(Please submit all Bulletin Notice requests to the parish office by 2pm Wednesdays)
Email the Parish Office to Subscribe for an Electronic Bulletin .

UPCOMING WORSHIP TIMES :

Saturday	6th January 5pm Family Mass—Morisset
Sunday	7th January 9.30am Mass—Morisset
Saturday	13th January 5pm Mass—Cooranbong
Sunday	14th January 9.30am Mass—Morisset
Saturday	20th January 5pm Family Mass—Morisset
Sunday	21st January 9.30am Mass—Morisset
Saturday	27th January 5pm Mass—Cooranbong
Sunday	28th January 9.30am Mass—Morisset
Tuesday	30th January 9.30am Liturgy—Morisset
Saturday	3rd February 5pm Family Mass—Morisset
Sunday	4th February 9.30am Mass—Morisset
Tuesday	6th February 9.30am Liturgy—Morisset
Saturday	10th February 5pm Mass - Cooranbong
Sunday	11th February 9.30am Mass—Morisset

Welcome

Welcome to all the visitors to our Parish of St John Vianney during the summer holiday season.

The Parish of St John Vianney Morisset, was officially formed in 1947, however our Mass center of St Patrick and St Brigid at Cooranbong, dates to the 1860's. The present Cooranbong Church celebrated its centenary in August 2006, and 150 years of Catholic presence in the area was celebrated in 2011.

It is documented that Saint Mary McKillop visited Cooranbong where she had a convent school. Up until 1966 St John Vianney Parish was part of the Diocese of Sydney, but now it is part of the Diocese of Maitland / Newcastle, with Bishop Michael Kennedy as Bishop.

The 9.30am Mass at Morisset is recorded each Sunday and uploaded to the Parish Website and Facebook later in the day, internet allowing. This allows people in nursing facilities and those away from the parish for whatever reason, to keep 'in touch' with the parish.

Reflection for The Epiphany Year B — 7th January 2024

Today we again hear the familiar story on the Feast of the Epiphany, of the Magi, who guided by the light of a star, went to Bethlehem to honour the Christ child. The journey was neither simple nor easy. They encountered difficulties, doubts, and dangers.

For their willingness to stand with Jesus, the magi are venerated as the first among the gentiles to believe. The story highlights the paradox: the Jews who have the scriptures reject Jesus, while Gentiles come, and with the help of Scriptures, find and adore him.

The word epiphany in common language means, a sudden stroke of insight that usually catches one unaware.

A survey was made among school children asking the question why they enjoyed reading Harry Potter novels and watching Harry Potter movies. The most common answer was, "Because you never know what's going to happen next!"

The same element of suspense and discovery marked the journey of the Magi, who never knew what road the Spirit was going to take them down next. The Magi- had to be a little crazy, leaving the security of their homeland to venture forth into a strange country, presided over by a mad king like Herod, in search of a Divine Child.

It's hard for us to understand today, just how powerful, and dominant a force King Herod was. He was a power-hungry thug without a conscience, and he loomed large in the lives of the ordinary people.

This is why their story has such relevance for us. Like them we too are on a journey. Some people think that they are losing their faith when they experience doubt. We must not be surprised when this happens. We must imitate the Magi. We must believe that the darkness will pass, and once again we will see the initial star beckoning to us. The Magi can serve as models for us on our faith journey. They refused to be put off by difficulties and hardships.

Today's readings invite us to have the curiosity of the school children, and the Faith and adventurous spirit of the Magi, so that we may experience the "Epiphany" of our God in everyone and every event. John France.

No Liturgies-School Holidays

There will be no Tuesday Liturgy of the Word during the School Holidays. Liturgy will recommence on Tuesday 30th January.

Farewell Fr Priyantha

Fr Priyantha Fernando, who has been helping us in our parish over the last year, has been appointed as Assistant Priest, assisting Fr George Anthicad in the six parishes of the Maitland area, effective 31 January 2024 until further notice. Fr Priyantha's final weekend with us is this Sunday 7th January 2024. A 'Cuppa' to say farewell to Fr Priyantha will be held after the 9.30am Mass,

World Day of Prayer 2024

The World Day of Prayer is a global ecumenical movement that brings Christians of many traditions together to observe a common day of prayer each year. Through preparation and participation in the worship service, we can learn how our sisters of other countries, languages and cultures understand the Biblical passages in their context. We can hear their concerns and needs and can join in solidarity with them as we pray with and for them. In this way, it is possible to enrich our Christian faith as it grows deeper and broader in an international, ecumenical expression.

The motto of the World Day of Prayer movement is Informed Prayer and Prayerful Action. Through our participation in the World Day of Prayer, we affirm that prayer and action are inseparable and that both have immeasurable influence on the world.

A different participating country writes the service each year, and we look forward to that prepared by the WDP Committee of Palestine for 2024.

St John Vianney Church Morisset will be the Host Church this year, Friday 1st March 2024.

More details as the date gets closer.

Easter

Easter is a 'movable feast' so it doesn't happen on the same date from year to year. In the Gregorian calendar, it is always observed on a Sunday between March 22 and April 25. Easter Sunday 2024 falls on March 31.

Points to Ponder

Traditions have always been an important dimension of celebrating faith. Each age is a time of special grace, including our age of high technology.

Did you Know?

An annual celebration of the Lord's resurrection goes back to the first generation of Christianity. For the first three centuries this was the only feast observed throughout the church. The original celebration of what would become Easter was done by way of a vigil. It was natural that Christians chose the night hours to celebrate their religious experience of a Christ victorious over death and sin and their victory along with his. It was during those dark hours, turning into the first day of the week (Sunday) that this mystery had occurred.

With a Light Heart

An 80-year-old woman had just gotten married for the fourth time. A reporter asked her what it felt like to be marrying again at that age, and then about her new husband's occupation. "He's a funeral director," she answered. Then the reporter asked about her first three husbands and what they did for a living. She explained that she had first married a banker when she was in her 20s, then a circus ringmaster in her 40s, and a preacher in her 60s. "I married one for the money, two for the show, three to get ready, and four to go."

#How does Moses make tea? Hebrews it

I tried to catch some fog, but I mist.

I changed my iPod's name to Titanic. It's syncing now.

Church Without Walls

Is an invitation to the whole community to encounter the stories of mission and outreach that take place across our diocese every single day. Even in these difficult times, people of faith are responding to the good news of Jesus Christ and are working towards transforming people's lives, and indeed, the whole of society. This is the mission that every one of us has a part in. Yet, each of us lives out this mission in a personal and unique way.

These are the stories we want to tell.

Church Without Walls will take us into the stories of people from all across the diocese. We will go into our parishes, our schools and our agencies. We will travel from Lake Macquarie to Taree. We will hear from people of all ages. We will hear the stories of everyday people making a difference right where they are. We will hear about what they do and why they do it.

As we listen and engage with these stories, we are invited to contemplate our own story.

How am I 'living mission' in my own life?

Where am I being called at this time?

This is story telling without limits.

This is Church... Without Walls.

To watch videos from this series, go to: [https://](https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLGbRbtb64OUbfFHKtqIbvMYGqjCKrLoS)

[www.youtube.com/playlist?](https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLGbRbtb64OUbfFHKtqIbvMYGqjCKrLoS)

[list=PLGbRbtb64OUbfFHKtqIbvMYGqjCKrLoS](https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLGbRbtb64OUbfFHKtqIbvMYGqjCKrLoS)

Tilling the Church - Theology of an Unfinished Project

You are invited to discuss Father Richard's latest publication, "Tiling the Church: Theology for an Unfinished Project".

We will be going through Richard's book chapter by chapter over several months online. Between 7:00PM and 8:30PM on the following dates:

Wednesday February 21 - Chapter 3. The Pilgrimage Community of Faith and Hope

Wednesday March 20 - Chapter 4. Engaging the Graced World

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

Wednesday May 15 - Chapter 6. The Art of Faithfulness and Conclusion

Register at: <https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/tilling-the-church-theology-of-an-unfinished-project-tickets-708148319687>

Voice of the Spirit

To access the latest Catholic Charismatic Renewal Newsletter, visit: www.mn.catholic.org.au/media/6739/novos2023e.pdf There are also two events to Save the Date for. CCR Leadership Day – Saturday 3 February 2024 and CCR NSW Conference – 7 to 8 September 2024.

2024 – Lenten Reflection – Transformation through Revelation

During the season of Lent, we are called to look deeply at the human condition, just as Jesus, the Son of God, experienced. We are reminded during this time of hardship, suffering, and ultimately dying that we must stretch ourselves. We must pray and fast from whatever is taking hold of the fullness of life. This time calls for personal reflection and encourages us to look out with missionary eyes to intentionally give to those in need.

To access our Diocesan Resource, Transformation Through Revelation, please visit <https://www.mn.catholic.org.au/media/6680/0003733-dio-2024-lenten-program-06.pdf>

Aurora

The December edition of the Aurora is available to read online at: <https://mnnews.today/aurora/december-2023/>

PROJECT COMPASSION

FOR ALL FUTURE GENERATIONS



Caritas Australia: Project Compassion Launch 2024

The Catholic Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle invites you to the launch of the 2024 Project Compassion appeal themed "For All Future Generations".

During the Liturgy, all attendees from across our schools, parishes and agencies are called forward by Parish region to receive their 2024 Project Compassion box and commissioning from Bishop Michael Kennedy.

Donations to Project Compassion allows Caritas Australia, the Catholic Agency for International Aid and Development, to work with local communities around the world to alleviate poverty, hunger, oppression and injustice.

At the conclusion of the Liturgy, complimentary pancakes will be served at the Southern Cross Hall. **Gluten Free pancakes are available; please advise when prompted at registration**.

Date: Shrove Tuesday - 13 February 2024

Time: 10.15am for a 10:30am start, concluding at approximately 12.30pm.

Parking is limited, we advise arriving with sufficient time to locate suitable parking. There is also paid parking at the Wilson St Carpark, a short five minute walk away.

Location: Sacred Heart Cathedral, HAMILTON. Followed by Pancakes in the Southern Cross Hall.

RSVP by: 5pm, Thursday 8 February 2024 at : <https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/caritas-australia-project-compassion-launch-2024-tickets-777386843977?aff=ebdsoporgprofile>

Men's Rosary Crusade Group

Bishop Micheal supports our Men's Rosary Crusade group which meets on the 1st Saturday of every month at Sacred Heart Cathedral in Newcastle at 1pm.

The Men's Rosary Crusade also meet every Tuesday at 7.30pm on zoom Time: *7.30pm every Tuesday*

Join Zoom Meeting <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82498429031?pwd=NHlrYjlsZ1grRzRpciBMbXU0NzBLQT09>

Meeting ID: 824 9842 9031 Passcode: 733946



SUPPORTING THE CLERGY / 1st Collection

If you would like to make contributions to support the Clergy / 1st Collection please do so at Mass in the BLUE bucket or electronically using the Online Payments button on the Parish Website Home page, Diocese App, Bank Account Name: CCF BSB: 062815 No: 00328161 Ref: 5016 1st Collection or set up a direct debit contact the parish office for this option.

SUPPORTING OUR PARISH / 2nd Collection

If you would like to make contributions to support our Parish please do so at Mass via the RED bucket or deposit directly into the Parish Account our details are: Account Name: CCF BSB:062815 Account Number: 00328161 one of the following Payment References are required by CCF for all deposits: 5004 or 5004 + SURNAME or 5004 + PG + your Giver Number, or 5004 + PG + SURNAME, or you can use the Online Payments button on the Parish Website Home page or the Diocese App. If you are considering taking up **planned giving** you may like to know that **a percentage of the contributions are tax deductible**. If you would like to know more or set up planned giving please contact the Parish Office.

UPCOMING FEAST DAYS MEMORIALS AND SOLEMINITIES

- THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD— 7TH JAN
- THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD (F) - 8TH JAN
- SAINT ANTHONY (M) - 17TH JAN
- SAINT FRANCIS DE SALES (M) - 24TH JAN
- CONVERSION OF SAINT PAUL (F) - 25TH JAN
- AUSTRALIA DAY—26TH JAN
- SAINT JOHN BOSCO (M) - 31ST JAN
- THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD (F) - 2ND FEB
- SAINT AGATHA (M) - 5TH FEB
- SAINTS PAUL MIKI AND COMPANIONS (M) - 6TH FEB

Please pray for all those who are sick: in hospital or at home, especially those living with a life threatening disease:

Kim Smith, Sr Patricia Adams rsm, Annette Boyd, Mary Monaghan, Clare Wallington, Donna Hazzard, Pam Mullaly, Mary Johnson, Tintumol Thomas, Les Findley, Peter Martyn, Bernadette Martin, Joan Gillett, Bruce Gillett.

Please pray for those who have been called to eternal life may they always be in our prayers.



WEEKEND ROSTERS			
		<u>THIS WEEK</u>	<u>NEXT WEEK</u>
<u>PRESIDERS</u>	5PM 9.30AM	Mass Mass	Mass Mass
<u>PROCLAIMERS:</u>	5PM 9.30AM	R Hay J France	J France H White
<u>PSALMIST:</u>	5PM 9.30AM	P Melvey J Shamley	L Hutchinson M Foo
<u>GIFTS</u>	5PM 9.30AM	A Walker G Walker L Hutchinson G Hutchinson	K Lendon J Vipan L Mc Rae L McRae
<u>SERVERS</u>	5PM 9.30AM	M Melvey F Dyson J Lawandos R Lawandos	M Melvey V Paulo C Lawandos
<u>AV</u>	5PM 9.30AM	J Vipan M Fowler	J France T Alexander
<u>WELCOMERS</u>	5PM 9.30AM	J France H White P Melvey K Amon	J France A Walker G Walker
<u>CHURCH CLEANING</u>	COOR MOR	XXXX R & C Hay	P MacIntyre C Lawandos

Prayer Requests for the Bulletin

If you would like the parish to pray for a family member who is sick, recently deceased or you would like remembered please call or email the parish office or complete a prayer card for each person and place in the mail box near the parish office door. Cards are available at the back of the church and at the Parish Office.

All prayer requests require permission from a family member or the person. Due to Australian privacy laws.

An Act of Spiritual Communion

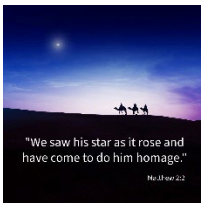
My Jesus,
I believe that You
are present in the Most Holy Sacrament.
I love You above all things,
and I desire to receive You into my soul.
Since I cannot at this moment
receive You sacramentally,
come at least spiritually into my heart.
I embrace You as if You were already there and unite
myself wholly to You.
Never permit me to be separated from You.
Amen.



Our Parish supports The Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle in its zero-tolerance approach to abuse. Every one of us must each day commit ourselves individually and collectively to safeguard each child and every vulnerable person to whom we minister and interact with. If you have any concerns for a child or vulnerable adult please contact the Office of Safeguarding P:02 4979 1390 or email: childprotection@mn.catholic.org.au, or visit their website for further information www.officeofsafeguarding.org.au.

Live stream Mass every Sunday at 9.30am at www.mn.catholic.org.au/places/live-stream





SUNDAY PRAYER SERVICE
The Epiphany of the Lord Year B
Sunday 07 Jan 2024

The Introductory Rites

Acknowledgement of Country

We Acknowledge the Traditional Custodians who have walked upon and cared for this land for thousands of years. We acknowledge the continued deep spiritual attachment and relationship of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples to this country and commit ourselves to the ongoing journey of reconciliation. We especially acknowledge the Awabakal and Darkinjung peoples who were the original custodians of the land this parish sits on.

Gathering

The Lectionary/Roman Missal or a Bible may be placed on a table together with a candle and a cross.

Sign of the Cross

Leader:

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

All:

Amen.

Greeting

Leader:

Blessed be Jesus Christ
the Word made flesh
who is proclaimed among the nations.

All:

Blessed be God forever.

Introductory Remarks

Leader (in these or similar words):

Friends in Christ,
although we cannot celebrate the Eucharist this day,
we gather in God's name
for when two or more come together
God is always with us.
We worship in union with the whole Church
rejoicing at the birth of the Saviour.

Opening Rite

LITANY OF PRAISE

Leader:

God's kindness brings hope to the world.
To prepare ourselves to hear his Word
let us praise the Lord Jesus Christ.

A brief period of silence follows.

Leader:

Lord Jesus, you are mighty God and Prince of Peace: Lord, have mercy.

All: Lord, have mercy.

Lord Jesus, you are Son of God and Son of Mary: Christ, have mercy.

All: Christ, have mercy.

Lord Jesus, you are word made flesh and splendour of the Father:
Lord, have mercy.

All: Lord, have mercy.

Leader:

May almighty God have mercy on us,
forgive us our sins,
and bring us to everlasting life.

All:

Amen.

Opening Prayer

Leader:

Let us pray.

All pause for silent prayer.

God of glory,
by the light of a star you guided the Magi to the newborn king.
Lead us to your light,
and help us to seek the face of Jesus
and unite the world in lasting peace.
We ask this through Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit,
for ever and ever.

All:

Amen.

The Liturgy of the Word

First Reading

Isaiah 60:1-6

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

The glory of the Lord shines upon you.

Arise, shine out, Jerusalem, for your light has come,
the glory of the Lord is rising on you,
though night still covers the earth
and darkness the peoples.

Above you the Lord now rises
and above you his glory appears.
The nations come to your light
and kings to your dawning brightness.

Lift up your eyes and look round:
all are assembling and coming towards you,
your sons from far away
and your daughters being tenderly carried.

At this sight you will grow radiant,
your heart throbbing and full;
since the riches of the sea will flow to you;
the wealth of the nations come to you;

camels in throngs will cover you,
and dromedaries of Midian and Ephah;
everyone in Sheba will come,
bringing gold and incense
and singing the praise of the Lord.

To indicate the end of the reading, the reader acclaims:

The word of the Lord.

All reply:

Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 71:1-2. 7-8. 10-13, R. see v.11

(R.) Lord, every nation on earth will adore you.

1. O God, give your judgement to the king,
to a king's son your justice,
that he may judge your people in justice
and your poor in right judgement. **(R.)**

2. In his days justice shall flourish
and peace till the moon fails.
He shall rule from sea to sea,
from the Great River to earth's bounds. (R.)
3. The kings of Tarshish and the sea coasts
shall pay him tribute.
The kings of Sheba and Seba
shall bring him gifts.
Before him all kings shall fall prostrate,
all nations shall serve him. (R.)
4. For he shall save the poor when they cry
and the needy who are helpless.
He will have pity on the weak
and save the lives of the poor. (R.)

Second Reading

Ephesians 3:2-3. 5-6

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Ephesians

The revelation means that pagans now share the same inheritance, that they are parts of the same body.

You have probably heard how I have been entrusted by God with the grace he meant for you, and that it was by a revelation that I was given the knowledge of the mystery. This mystery that has now been revealed through the Spirit to his holy apostles and prophets was unknown to any men in past generations; it means that pagans now share the same inheritance, that they are parts of the same body, and that the same promise has been made to them, in Christ Jesus, through the gospel.

To indicate the end of the reading, the reader acclaim:

The word of the Lord.

All reply:

Thanks be to God.

Gospel

Reader:

From the holy Gospel according to Matthew.

All:

Glory to you, O Lord.

Matthew 2:1-12

We have come from the East to worship the king.

After Jesus had been born at Bethlehem in Judaea during the reign of King Herod, some wise men came to Jerusalem from the east. 'Where is the infant king of the Jews?' they asked. 'We saw his star as it rose and have come to do him homage.' When King Herod heard this he was perturbed, and so was the whole of Jerusalem. He called together all the chief priests and the scribes of the people, and enquired of them where the Christ was to be born. 'At Bethlehem in Judaea,' they told him, 'for this is what the prophet wrote:

And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah,
you are by no means least among the leaders of Judah,
for out of you will come a leader
who will shepherd my people Israel.'

Then Herod summoned the wise men to see him privately. He asked them the exact date on which the star had appeared, and sent them on to Bethlehem. 'Go and find out all about the child,' he said 'and when you have found him, let me know, so that I too may go and do him homage.' Having listened to what the king had to say, they set out. And there in front of them was the star they had seen rising; it went forward and halted over the place where the child was. The sight of the star filled them with

delight, and going into the house they saw the child with his mother Mary, and falling to their knees they did him homage. Then, opening their treasures, they offered him gifts of gold and frankincense and myrrh. But they were warned in a dream not to go back to Herod, and returned to their own country by a different way.

Reader:

The Gospel of the Lord.

All:

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

All are seated.

Reflection on the Word

A short period of reflection may be observed.

Profession of Faith

Leader:

In union with the whole Church

let us profess our faith.

All:

**I believe in God,
the Father almighty,
Creator of heaven and earth,
and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,**

At the words that follow, up to and including the Virgin Mary, all bow.

**who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died and was buried;
he descended into hell;
on the third day he rose again from the dead;
he ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty;
from there he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and life everlasting. Amen.**

Prayers of the Faithful

Leader: Dear friends, through the Holy Family of Leader:

Dearest friends, let us bring our intentions
before Christ our Lord, the light of the world.

Reader: That the Holy Church will continue with faith
and confidence to bring the message of the
Gospel to all.

(pause)

In your light:

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: That nations of East and West will follow
Christ's light as the way to true peace and
justice.

(pause)

In your light:

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: That through the brightness of Christ, those
struggling with sin will have the darkness
driven from their hearts.

(pause)

In your light:

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: That the world will heed the call of Pope Francis for an end to the terrorism of war, and the turning of swords into ploughshares.

(pause)

In your light:

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: That those affected by floods and other disasters will receive the help they urgently need and long-term support as they rebuild their lives.

(pause)

In your light:

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: That our parish community will bring the light of Christ to our families and friends.

(pause)

In your light:

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: That the sick and housebound will find strength in the radiance of Jesus Christ, especially those who are members of our community and families.

(pause)

In your light:

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: That those who have died will embrace the light of eternal life, especially those who were members of our community and families.

(pause)

In your light:

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader: Loving Father, you gave your Son as a light for all nations. Hear our prayers and grant us the radiance of Jesus Christ as we spread your Gospel to the world. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

Leader:

At the Saviour's command and formed by divine teaching, we dare to say:

All:

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name;
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread,
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen.**

The Concluding Rite Blessing

Leader:

May the God of glory fill our hearts with peace and joy, now and for ever.

All make the sign of the cross during the blessing.

All:

Amen.

Dismissal

Leader:

Let us go in peace.

All:

Thanks be to God.

© The scriptural quotations are taken from the Jerusalem Bible, published and copyright 1966, 1967 and 1968 by Darton Longman and Todd Ltd and Doubleday & Co Inc, and used by permission of the publishers.

The English translation of the Psalm Responses, the Alleluia and Gospel Verses, and the Lenten Gospel Acclamations, and the Titles, Summaries, and Conclusion of the Readings, from the Lectionary for Mass © 1997, 1981, 1968, International Committee on English in the Liturgy, Inc. All rights reserved. The prayers are from the English Translation of the Roman Missal © 2010 International Committee on English in the Liturgy Inc. (ICEL). All rights reserved.

St John Vianney Parish Morisset

Come join us for our Family Masses

Starting @ 5pm
In St John Vianney Catholic Church
60 Yambo St Morisset

Held on Saturday's coinciding with the 1st & 3rd Sundays of the month.

www.vianneymorisset.org

f i

"In this time of renewal in the Church and in our country, we invite everyone to join us in walking with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people on this journey of healing."

SOCIAL JUSTICE STATEMENT 2023-24

Listen, Learn, Love

A New Engagement with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples

AUSTRALIAN CATHOLIC BISHOPS' CONFERENCE OFFICE FOR JUSTICE, ECOLOGY AND PEACE



Art speaks louder than words

Education plays a pivotal role in the healthy development of all children but for Molly Mung it also provides a gateway to a rich and proud history spanning tens of thousands of years.

MADIE LEEMING PUBLISHED DECEMBER 02, 2023

A Year 6 student at St Joseph's Primary School Dungog, 12-year-old Molly is a Gija woman who has been raised on Worimi land but has strong familial connections to Frog Hollow and Warmun in the Kimberley.

"When I get to go to the Kimberley and spend time with my family there, it makes me feel happy and really excited," she said. "I get to learn from people and get knowledge and tips on fishing, bush food and dream time stories."

For the past two years, Molly has been working with her school's Aboriginal Education Worker, Karen Tucker, to better understand her culture and foster a deeper connection to it.

"I feel connected to my culture when I'm there (The Kimberley), I'm a different version of myself and when I come back to Dungog, doing culture with Karen makes me feel connected."

The theme for NAIDOC week this year was, "For Our Elders", and Karen encouraged Molly to create an artwork that was reflective of the elders that have influenced her throughout her life.

In creating her artwork, Molly said she thought about people and places that held great memories that would remain with her forever.

"This painting is about my Grandma," Molly said.

"The blue represents the water where we would go fishing and swimming, the brown represents the

rocks where we used to dive off into the water. In the middle is a reflection of my grandma.

"My grandmother is a respected elder and I am a reflection of her."

Karen works with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students throughout their primary years to help them understand their cultural heritage and identity.

"I am proud of the artwork Molly produced, it perfectly represents what the 2023 NAIDOC theme, 'For Our Elders', means to her and tells a story that is rich with history and sentiment," she said.

Karen said moments like these made her role as an Aboriginal Education Worker so rewarding.

"I feel very privileged to hold this position and honoured that our relationship, which has been built on trust, has enabled Molly to feel confident, valued, seen and heard," she said.

"Thank you, Molly, you have taught me so much."

Louise Campbell, Aboriginal Torres Strait Islander Education & Wellbeing Education Officer, Catholic Schools Office, spent some time in the Kimberley region where she was immersed in the Gija people's culture.

Upon seeing Molly's artwork, Louise said it left "an incredible mark on my soul" and was able to create an entire sensory symphony akin to her experience visiting the Kimberley's.

"Molly's commitment to keep her culture alive is embodied in her art piece and I congratulate her that she is continuing a legacy that has been handed over from her Gija Elders, so far away from her homelands," said Louise.

While Frog Hollow and Warmun are a long way from Dungog, Molly said the encouragement of her school and the wider community, to keep learning about her culture, made her feel respected and happy.

"I like how supportive my school and community are of me," she said. "I think it's important because in the past I don't think aboriginal people have been able to talk about this sort of thing and I don't think they've had as much respect as I do today."

Follow [mnnews.today](#) on [Facebook](#).