



**St John  
Vianney**  
Parish Morisset



**THIRTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME YEAR B 27 OCTOBER 2024**

*In today's Gospel the prayer of the blind man Bartimaeus when he met Jesus was, 'Lord that I may see'.*

*It is a prayer which we can make our own, because in many ways we too are blind. Jesus wants to open our eyes too. We have to distinguish between sight and vision.*

*Just because we have good eyesight it doesn't mean we have good vision. It is not with the eyes only that we see. We also see with the mind, the heart and imagination.*

*A narrow mind, a small heart, and a deprived imagination lead to a loss of vision, and narrow our world.*

*This Sunday let us pray, that in the midst of our own darkness, we may obtain the vision that Jesus gave to Bartimaeus.*



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 PRIESTS:** Fr Greg Barker VG  
Fr Darryl Mackie  
Fr Raphael Madukwe  
Fr John Purnell

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

**PARISH SECRETARY:** Rosanna Suckling

**PARISH 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](mailto:morparish@mn.catholic.org.au)  
**Morisset Parish Web site:** [www.vianneymorisset.org](http://www.vianneymorisset.org)  
**Morisset Parish Facebook :** <https://www.facebook.com/stjvparish>

**UPCOMING WORSHIP TIMES :**

Saturday	26th October 5pm Mass—Cooranbong
Sunday	27th October 9.30am Mass—Morisset
Tuesday	29th October 9.30am Liturgy—Morisset
Friday	1st November 10.30am Mass—Morisset
Friday	1st November 7pm Mass—Morisset
Saturday	2nd November 5pm Family Mass—Morisset
Sunday	3rd November 9.30am Mass—Morisset
Tuesday	5th November 9.30am Liturgy—Morisset
Friday	8th November 10.30am Mass—Morisset
Saturday	9th November 5pm Mass—Cooranbong
Sunday	10th November 9.30am Mass—Morisset
Tuesday	12th November 9.30am Liturgy—Morisset
Friday	15th November 10.30am Mass—Morisset

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## Moving Forward

As you are aware, Option B, the 'Shared Parish Priest Model' was the preferred option from the recent voting. The decision was subsequently submitted to the Bishop.

It was the intention of the present PPC to convene a Parish Assembly, to formalise a new Pastoral Council, and a new Pastoral Team and commence Safeguarding training to support the chosen model.

Acting on advice from the Vicar General, the Assembly has been 'put on hold,' until a shared priest has been appointed.

While we wait for the Bishop's appointment, the parish will remain under the leadership of John and Uta.

## Feast of Christ the King -24th November

If anyone has a significant birthday to celebrate, or would like to renew their wedding vows, or has lost a partner recently, it is planned that at the 9.30am Mass, on the Feast of Christ the King, parishioners will be able to celebrate these events.

If you are interested in receiving a special blessing to acknowledge these milestones, please complete the online form at: <https://forms.office.com/r/VazV4MOfIL> or the hard copy ones at the back of the church and place in the box provided.

## Christmas

Thank you to the people who have already volunteered to help with the Christmas Masses.

If you can help with the Christmas Mass Ministries, or general assistance for 'Set up' and 'Pack up' Please complete a 'sign up' sheet online at: <https://forms.office.com/r/Cer8Rr35Lt>

Or the hard copy ones at the back of the church and place in the box provided.

Christmas Mass Times will be announced when the availability of priests is determined.

## All Saints/All Souls Day:

The whole month of November has traditionally been dedicated to the theme of death, and those who have died. The month begins with the Feast of All Saints on November 1, and the next day, with the Feast of All Souls.

To help celebrate both Feast Days, Mass will be held in the Morisset Church on Friday 1st November 10.30am (All Saints) and again Friday 1st November in the Morisset Church 7.00pm (Vigil All Souls)

We are giving Parishioners the opportunity to submit the names of their deceased relatives please submit your names by completing the online form at: <https://forms.office.com/r/6BFmX8MMRY> or the hard copy ones at the back of the church and place in the box provided.

## Melbourne Cup

It is planned that on Tuesday 5th November 2024 there will be a Melbourne Cup function held in the Callinan Centre. If you are interested in attending contact Marcia or Michell Foo.

## GOSPEL

### Mark 10:46-52

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark

*Master, grant that I may see.*

As Jesus left Jericho with his disciples and a large crowd, Bartimaeus (that is, the son of Timaeus), a blind beggar, was sitting at the side of the road. When he heard that it was Jesus of Nazareth, he began to shout and to say, 'Son of David, Jesus, have pity on me.' And many of them scolded him and told him to keep quiet, but he only shouted all the louder, 'Son of David, have pity on me.' Jesus stopped and said, 'Call him here.' So they

called the blind man. 'Courage,' they said 'get up; he is calling you.' So throwing off his cloak, he jumped up and went to Jesus. Then Jesus spoke, 'What do you want me to do for you?' 'Rabbuni,' the blind man said to him 'Master, let me see again.' Jesus said to him, 'Go; your faith has saved you.' And immediately his sight returned and he followed him along the road.

## THIRTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME Year B — Reflection 27th October 2024

We can hear the readings each week at Mass, but often do not recognise the connections with our real-life issues.

One reason is that we may assume that the Bible is ancient history, so we don't expect it to speak to modern questions. Or, that the language of the Bible is not quite the same as today, so the verbal clues are not always obvious.

In today's Gospel, Jesus meets a blind man by the name of Bartimaeus. Jesus said, 'What do you wish me to do for you?' There's no doubt about it. Competition is as keen today as it was during Jesus' time. Human nature hasn't changed much in the last two thousand years. Jesus said that his mission, was 'to open the eyes of the blind'.

Jesus' mission was not so much a question of bringing physical sight to people, but of bringing them vision, of giving them another way of looking at life. It wasn't a question of opening people's eyes physically, but of opening their minds, their imaginations and especially their hearts.

Scripture tells us that before we ask for the power to do something, we should ask for the ability to see—to see the anger and prejudice that fuel the political divide. It is only when we see and understand the world as it really is, that we will be able to make the world what God wants it to be

Today's Gospel calls us to throw off that cloak, open our eyes and simplify our life, leaving behind the things that weigh us down.

Not everyone is called to the life of a beach bum, but there is much freedom in a simple life with less possessions. It is all those belongings that drain us without us even realizing it.

But how do we recognize when we are so overcome by the distractions or disorder of life, that we leave our faith and spirituality as an afterthought? How do we nurture our relationship with God when there is so much to divert us from what will give us real joy?

John France

## Vinnies Christmas Appeal

The local Vinnies Conference will conduct their Christmas Appeal on the Weekend of the

Sat 30th November and Sun 1st December. —(First Sunday in Advent)

## Job opportunity at the Bishop's Office

The Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle is seeking a dedicated, faith-driven individual to join the Bishop's Office as the Bishop's Office Executive Assistant Support. This permanent, full-time unique role provides invaluable assistance to the Executive Assistant to the Bishop, ensuring the Bishop's pastoral and administrative responsibilities are met with efficiency, professionalism, and discretion.

[https:// To apply: www.mn.catholic.org.au/about/careers/positions](https://www.mn.catholic.org.au/about/careers/positions)

We encourage anyone across the Diocese who is interested and meets the criteria to apply. For further information, please contact Christopher Voigt –

[christopher.voigt@mn.catholic.org.au](mailto:christopher.voigt@mn.catholic.org.au)



We would like to thank you for your generosity supporting the Church in Mongolia and House of Mercy.

**Thanks to your kindness, people like Chuluunbaatar will have access to the support they need to help them get back on their feet. Your gift will also support a variety of Church programs around the world.**

To learn more about the impact your support is making, please visit [catholicmission.org.au/our-work](https://catholicmission.org.au/our-work). Here, you can also sign up to our regular newsletter to keep up to date with the latest news.

If you have not yet had the opportunity to give, please do so at [catholicmission.org.au/mongolia](https://catholicmission.org.au/mongolia). Your action will make a profound change on people's lives.



Freecall: 1800 257 296  
[catholicmission.org.au/mongolia](https://catholicmission.org.au/mongolia)

SCAN ME



### With A Light Heart

A grandmother was pushing her little grandchild around a shopping centre in a buggy.

Each time she put something in the basket she would say, "And here's something for you, Diploma." or "This will make a cute little outfit for you, Diploma."

Eventually a bewildered shopper who had overheard the comments, finally asked, "Why do you keep calling your grandchild Diploma?"

The grandmother replied, "I sent my daughter to University and this is what she came home with!"

### CatholicCare Christmas Hampers

CatholicCare Social Services Hunter-Manning have started collected donations for their 2024 Christmas Hamper Drive. The team is hoping to spread Christmas cheer by gifting hampers to people who access their Community Kitchens and often go without over the festive period. If you would like to contribute, please drop off any of the following items to one of the listed locations below.

Christmas puddings/cake & custard - Chocolates, lollies or candy canes  
Sweet or savoury biscuits - Tea bags, coffee, hot chocolate, sugar, Chips or popcorn.

CatholicCare office – 50 Crebert Street, Mayfield  
CatholicCare office – 32-34 Pulteney Street, Taree | Coles Taree | Coles Stockland Forster

### Christian Meditation

You're invited to join the WCCM Meditation Community for their next event on Saturday 30 November. It starts at 9.30am at the Diocesan Resource Centre. Morning tea is provided. Donations of \$10 are appreciated. Contact Anne for more info by emailing [annecuskelly@hotmail.com](mailto:annecuskelly@hotmail.com) or phoning 0407 436 808.

### Advent 2024: Awaiting Hope

We are called during this holy time to wait with hope knowing the joys of what is to come with the arrival of Christ. Awaiting Hope is a Diocesan resource that invites all members of the community to gather a circle of people – family, friends, colleagues, ministry teams to reflect mystagogically on the Advent Gospels. This is an opportunity to encounter Christ where we are, to pay attention to what Christ reveals in the scripture and the living tradition of our faith, to share this, to connect it to our life now and to be changed by it.

To access the resource, go to: <https://www.mn.catholic.org.au/church-mission/catholic-life/liturgy/liturgical-year/advent-christmas-1/>

### Formation Films at the Diocesan Resource Centre

On Saturday 2 November, everyone is welcome to join us as we watch, "The Miracle Club" at the Diocesan Resource Centre for our next Formation Films event. The movie follows the story of three generations of close friends, Lily (Maggie Smith), Eileen (Kathy Bates), and Dolly (Agnes O'Casey) of Ballygar, outside Dublin, who win a pilgrimage to the sacred French town of Lourdes, that place of miracles that draws millions of visitors each year. Register now! <https://forms.office.com/r/1jyjLH5GsB>

### 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?

#### All Saints' Day

On May 13, A.D.609, Pope Boniface IV dedicated this date to honour of all Christian martyrs, and the Catholic feast of All Martyrs Day was established in the Western church. Pope Gregory III later expanded the festival to include all saints as well as all martyrs and moved the observance from May 13 to November 1.

In A.D. 1000, the church made November 2 All Souls' Day, a day to honour the dead. It's widely believed today that the church was attempting to replace the Celtic festival of the dead with a related, church-sanctioned holiday. The All-Saints' Day celebration was also called All-hallows or All-Hallowmas (from Middle English Alholowmesse meaning All Saints' Day. All Hallows Eve or Halloween gave its name to a Celtic Druid custom.

Halloween has come to be associated with several activities. One is the practice of pulling usually harmless pranks. Celebrants wear masks and costumes for parties and for trick-or-treating, Trick-or-treaters go from house to house with the threat that they will pull a trick if they do not receive a treat, usually sweets.

### Baptism Preparation Program

Baptism is a happy event and a time to ponder God's loving gifts in our lives. For those seeking baptism for their children our baptism preparation programs will usually run in the evenings on the second Tuesday of the Month starting at 7pm, bookings are essential. Our next Program will be held on **Tuesday 5th Nov 2024**. Bookings can be made online at the link at: <https://forms.office.com/r/wZtatkt01V>

**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, Electronic Funds Transfer Only Bank Account Name: Morisset Parish Presbytery BSB: 066739 No: 100004062 Ref: 1st Collection & SURNAME or contact the parish office to set up a direct debit.

**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 our Parish Electronic Funds Transfer Only Account the details are: Account Name: Morisset Parish Church BSB:066739 Account Number: 100004064 please use one of the following Payment References PG + your giver number or PG + SURNAME or SURNAME you can also use the Online Payments or Planned Giving 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.

<b>WEEKEND ROSTERS</b>			
		<u>THIS WEEK</u>	<u>NEXT WEEK</u>
<u>PRESIDERS</u>	5PM 9.30AM	Mass Mass	Mass Mass
<u>PROCLAIMERS:</u>	5PM 9.30AM	D Peterson J Vipan	J Vipan M Melvey
<u>PSALMIST:</u>	5PM 9.30AM	U France J Shamley	K Lendon H White
<u>GIFTS</u>	5PM 9.30AM	P Robertson H White L Hutchinson G Hutchinson	P Melvey A Walker G Walker
<u>SERVERS</u>	5PM 9.30AM	M Melvey M Melvey	M Melvey F Dyson V Paulo
<u>AV</u>	5PM 9.30AM	J France U France	J France M Foo
<u>WELCOMERS</u>	5PM 9.30AM	Cameron Family TBA	TBA J France
<u>CHURCH CLEANING</u>	COOR MOR	P MacIntyre B Hutcheson D Whitten	XXXX C Lawandos K Lendon

*The Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle has an abiding commitment to promote the safety, welfare and wellbeing of children and vulnerable adults.*

*Our Parish supports The Diocese 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 interact with.*

**Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility.**

*If you have any concerns for a child or vulnerable person please contact the Office of Safeguarding Phone: 02 4979 1390*

*Email: [childprotection@mn.catholic.org.au](mailto:childprotection@mn.catholic.org.au),*

*or visit their website for further information:*

*[www.officeofsafeguarding.org.au](http://www.officeofsafeguarding.org.au)*

**UPCOMING FEAST DAYS MEMORIALS AND SOLEMINITIES**

- SAINTS SIMON AND JUDE (F) - 28TH OCT
- ALL SAINTS (S) - 1ST NOV
- THE COMMEMORATION OF ALL THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED –2ND NOV
- SAINT CHARLES BORROMEIO (M) - 4TH NOV
- THE DEDICATION OF THE LATERAN BASILICA (F) - 9TH NOV
- SAINT MARTIN OF TOURS (M) - 11TH NOV
- SAINT JOSAPHAT (M) - 12TH NOV
- PRESENTATION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY (M) - 21ST NOV
- SAINT CECILIA (M) - 22ND NOV
- OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, KING OF THE UNIVERSE (S) - 24TH NOV

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

Frank Simons, Anna Dussin, Mary Carapiet, Koby Smith, Annette Boyd, Mary Monaghan, Clare Wallington, Donna Hazzard, Pam Mullaly, Tintumol Thomas, Peter Martyn, Bernadette Martin, Bruce Gillett.

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

**Remembrance:** Cornelius Lyons, Grace Lyons, Emily Williams, Carmel Brereton, Les Fowler.



**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.



*Live stream Mass every Sunday at 9.30am at [www.mn.catholic.org.au/places/live-stream](http://www.mn.catholic.org.au/places/live-stream)*



We are committed to the  
**NATIONAL CATHOLIC  
SAFEGUARDING STANDARDS**



**SUNDAY PRAYER SERVICE**  
**Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time**  
**Year B**  
**Sunday 27 Oct 2024**

**The Introductory Rites**  
**Acknowledgement of Country**

We Acknowledge the Awabakal and Darkinjung nations as the Traditional Custodians who have walked upon and cared for this land our parish encompasses for thousands of years, and honour and pay respect to, Elders past, present and emerging. 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.

**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 who makes us one, and strengthens us by the power of his Spirit.

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 keeping this day of the Lord holy.

**Opening Rite**  
**LITANY OF PRAISE**

Leader:

Before listening to the Word of God let us praise the Lord Jesus Christ who has raised us to new life.

A brief period of silence follows.

Leader:

Lord Jesus, you gather us from the ends of the earth: Lord, have mercy.

**All: Lord, have mercy.**

Christ Jesus, you come in word and sacrament to strengthen us in holiness: Christ, have mercy.

**All: Christ, have mercy.**

Lord Jesus, you bring light to those in darkness: 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 our Father  
 you have called us to love you  
 with our whole being.  
 Help us to live out your commandment of love  
 by serving you and loving our neighbour.  
 We ask this through Jesus Christ,  
 with the Holy Spirit,  
 for ever and ever.

All:

Amen.

**The Liturgy of the Word**

**First Reading**

**Jeremiah 31:7-9**

A reading from the prophet Jeremiah

*I shall lead them back in mercy – both the blind and the lame.*

The Lord says this:

Shout with joy for Jacob!  
 Hail the chief of nations!  
 Proclaim! Praise! Shout:  
 The Lord has saved his people,  
 the remnant of Israel!  
 See, I will bring them back  
 from the land of the North  
 and gather them from the far ends of earth;  
 all of them: the blind and the lame,  
 women with child, women in labour:  
 a great company returning here.  
 They had left in tears,  
 I will comfort them as I lead them back;  
 I will guide them to streams of water,  
 by a smooth path where they will not stumble.  
 For I am a father to Israel,  
 and Ephraim is my first-born son.

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

The word of the Lord.

All reply:

**Thanks be to God.**

**Responsorial Psalm**

**Ps 125. R. v.3**

**(R.) The Lord has done great things for us;  
 we are filled with joy.**

- When the Lord delivered Zion from bondage, It seemed like a dream. Then was our mouth filled with laughter, on our lips there were songs. (R.)
- The heathens themselves said: 'What marvels the Lord worked for them!' What marvels the Lord worked for us! Indeed we were glad. (R.)
- Deliver us, O Lord, from our bondage as streams in dry land. Those who are sowing in tears will sing when they reap. (R.)
- They go out, they go out, full of tears, carrying seed for the sowing: they come back, they come back, full of song, carrying their sheaves. (R.)

## Second Reading

### Hebrews 5:1-6

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews

*You are a priest forever in the line of Melchizedek.*

Every high priest has been taken out of mankind and is appointed to act for men in their relations with God, to offer gifts and sacrifices for sins; and so he can sympathise with those who are ignorant or uncertain because he too lives in the limitations of weakness. That is why he has to make sin offerings for himself as well as for the people. No one takes this honour on himself, but each one is called by God, as Aaron was. Nor did Christ give himself the glory of becoming high priest, but he had it from the one who said to him: You are my son, today I have become your father, and in another text: You are a priest of the order of Melchizedek, and for ever.

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

The word of the Lord.

All reply:

Thanks be to God.

## Gospel

Reader:

From the holy Gospel according to **Mark**

All:

Glory to you, O Lord.

### Mark 10:46-52

*Master, grant that I may see.*

As Jesus left Jericho with his disciples and a large crowd, Bartimaeus (that is, the son of Timaeus), a blind beggar, was sitting at the side of the road. When he heard that it was Jesus of Nazareth, he began to shout and to say, 'Son of David, Jesus, have pity on me.' And many of them scolded him and told him to keep quiet, but he only shouted all the louder, 'Son of David, have pity on me.' Jesus stopped and said, 'Call him here.' So they called the blind man. 'Courage,' they said 'get up; he is calling you.' So throwing off his cloak, he jumped up and went to Jesus. Then Jesus spoke, 'What do you want me to do for you?' 'Rabbuni,' the blind man said to him 'Master, let me see again.' Jesus said to him, 'Go; your faith has saved you.' And immediately his sight returned and he followed him along the road.

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.

QQ. Which phrase or statement in the passage bears particular significance for you?

Q. Would the impact and message of the story be different if Bartimaeus had some other affliction?

Q. Why does this account come at the conclusion of a section about discipleship?

Q. When have you ever experienced a sense of 'sitting at the side of the road'?

Q. How would you answer Jesus' question, 'What do you want me to do for you?'

## 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.

## Prayer of the Faithful

Leader: Dear friends, let us bring our prayers before the Lord, who saves all who call on him.

Reader: That the Holy Church will become more truly the Body of Christ and embrace all people everywhere. In your kindness:

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: That like Melchizedek of old, all priests and bishops will embrace their ministry of leading the faithful to a greater understanding of God. In your kindness:

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: That our parish community will remain steadfast in our faith as followers of Jesus Christ. In your kindness:

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: That thorough our prayers and actions, the poor or oppressed may experience freedom, justice and peace. In your kindness:

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: That the participants in the Synod on Synodality will work together in a spirit of prayer, truth, and hopefulness. In your kindness:

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: That families experiencing domestic violence will receive timely and effective help, and know the support of their faith community. In your kindness:

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: That all the sick, including family, friends and members of this community, will find comfort in the Lord's healing mercy. In your kindness:

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: That all those who have died, including family, friends and members of this community, will be lead in mercy to the Father's heavenly kingdom. In your kindness:

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader: Loving Father, your Words are spirit and life for all the faithful. Hear our prayers, and help us to always remain steadfast in our faith. 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 Lord be with us and protect us  
now and for ever.

All make the sign of the cross during the blessing.

All:

Amen.

### Dismissal

Leader:

Let us go in the peace to love and serve the Lord.

All:

**Thanks be to God.**

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## NSW Catholic Charismatic Renewal – Thanksgiving End of Year Mass

You are invited to join the NSW Catholic Charismatic Renewal for their 2024 End of Year Mass. It's an opportunity to give thanks to the Lord for all he has done this year. Fr Brian Steele will preside over the service from 10.30am at Our Lady of Fatima Church and Parish Hall in Peakhurst. Please bring a plate to share for lunch. Registrations are essential: [www.trybooking.com/events/landing/1269282](http://www.trybooking.com/events/landing/1269282)

## Stuck for gift ideas this Christmas?

We have the answer.

Global Gifts are a way to make a life-changing impact this Christmas season, while also celebrating the joy of giving with your family and friends.

Each gift represents a solution to challenges faced by vulnerable families in need. When you choose a Global Gift, you are making a significant difference in the lives of those who are struggling with access to basic necessities this Christmas – like food, hygiene kits, education and handwash facilities.

Purchase your Global Gift at : [Global Gifts \(caritas.org.au\)](http://GlobalGifts(caritas.org.au))

## LITURGY MATTERS: Remembering Creation Sings

On Saturday afternoon 21 September we celebrated our very first communal choir and prayer which was called Creation Sings! Louise Gannon rsj PUBLISHED October 22, 2024

And indeed, creation did sing when about 60 people responded to the invitation to come to the Cathedral to learn a song about creation, to celebrate and pray for creation, and to feast on the fruits of creation.

The Team who dreamed and prepared this event were thrilled with the response.

To all those who participated ... thanks! And a question: How is your garden growing? The two cuttings I received during our afternoon are already blossoming.

The recording of our song and pictures of our afternoon are now available for the enjoyment of all. Please click here to access the video or watch it below. I hope it sparks your enthusiasm to be part of our next communal choir and prayer event. We would love you to share the link and help us sow seeds that might take shoot when we promote our next event.

For those who love to sing and are not already on the database for our Diocesan Choir, please note the next significant diocesan celebration is the priestly ordination of Solomon Okovido in the Sacred Heart Cathedral, 841 Hunter St, Newcastle at 10.00am on Saturday 23 November. If you would like to register to be part of the choir and receive information about rehearsals, please email Fiona this week. Those on the database will automatically receive information.

May creation continue to sing in and through you, and around you, as we move through spring to summer. You might wish to view the video at: <https://youtu.be/KJRTdrcSb14>

## Synod on Synodality enters final week

After almost three weeks, the last of two assemblies for the Synod on Synodality has entered its final stretch before it concludes on Sunday 27 October.

Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle PUBLISHED October 22, 2024

As conversations on the agenda set by the Instrumentum Laboris, or working document, wrapped up last week, the focus going forward will be the writing and editing of the Synod on Synodality's final document. The next few days will be full of prayer, group discussions, speeches and creating the final document. The final piece will then be delivered to the Pope, who can either adopt and publish it as an official papal text or use it as a guide for writing his own post-synodal document.

If you would like to know more about what's happening at the Synod, the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference has been sharing several resources on its social media at <https://www.facebook.com/AustralianCatholicBishops> and website at <https://mediablog.catholic.org.au/>

Visit the ACBC YouTube channel to watch some videos about the Synod, including interviews with attendees at: <https://www.youtube.com/@CatholicOrgAuabc>

## BBI course – Catholics, Faith and Science

What does the Catholic Church say about the relationship between faith and science? How are we to approach topics like evolution and the Big Bang theory in our classrooms? How do we engage pupils in conversation about this relationship and why is it important to do so? This short course is for all teachers but those who teach science and those who teach religion may find it of relevance to their work. There will be input from the presenter and opportunities to discuss and share insights and ideas for teaching with other teachers. When: Mondays 28 October & 4 November 2024 Time: 4:00pm-5:30pm Where: Diocesan Resource Centre or online Cost: Free REGISTER AT: <https://forms.office.com/r/8wYqgDUbcm>

## Song of the Fish

If you haven't already, make sure you get to the Singleton Arts and Cultural Centre to see the amazing 'Song of the Fish' installations!

Catholic Schools Office PUBLISHED October 18, 2024

'Song of the Fish' is the latest installation at Singleton's Arts & Cultural Centre, featuring the talents of the Year 7 students from St Catherine's Catholic College, Singleton.

The installation explores and celebrates the importance of the Coquin River (Hunter River) for the local First Nations Peoples. The project has connected aspects right across the school community, which has actively and authentically engaged students in their learning.

Students involved in the work were keen to talk about the exhibition at the opening, describing how they would walk down to the Hunter River, and learn about endangered native species, including the fish. Through this project, Year 7 students were able to explore how art can be a response to environmental concerns and form the beginnings of a solution.

St Catherine's teacher, Alana Partridge, said the opening night was a wonderful success especially for the students involved in the event and the art works.

"It was lovely to see our student's artistic abilities recognised and celebrated," she said.

"I hope the community can come along and see what they have achieved."

The exhibition will be on display at the Centre until November 3.

## How GambleAware helped Jonathan take control of his life

Forty years, more than 50 attempts, and a whole lot of determination is what it took Jonathan\* to take control of his gambling.

Elizabeth Symington PUBLISHED October 22, 2024

It's something he's struggled with since he was eight years old, when Jonathan was introduced to betting on horse racing.

It was 1982, and he asked his grandparents if he could place a bet, which he did, and won. In his words, it was "one of the worst things that could have happened" because it sparked what became a lifelong interest in gambling on horse racing.

Jonathan says that each year, his obsession with gambling got worse.

He'd spend more and more money and time at the TAB, and then, when it became available, he would also bet online.

"I had a hard time at school, so I would use it as an escape," Jonathan said.

"I would ring up and put \$5 on a horse, and that would get me through a couple of weeks.

"As the years went on, it got to the point where I was betting most days. When I got a full-time job, I spent a lot of my money.

"I didn't have many friends, so I guess I used it to pass the time."

At 21, Jonathan realised he had a problem and "tried and tried and tried" to give it up.

For years, he'd block websites, try different counselling and groups, and avoid visiting the TAB or watching the racing, but nothing ever stuck. Jonathan would get through a couple of months without gambling, but would then break.

About 18 months ago, he decided he needed some extra help, so he reached out to GambleAware Hunter New England, a program run by CatholicCare Social Services Hunter-Manning.

This is when he met Gambling Counsellor Tammy, who has been in his corner ever since, providing guidance and a listening ear on his journey.

"My GambleAware counsellor is just amazing," Jonathan said.

"Tammy understands what I am going through, is very supportive, and never judgy.

"She is genuinely excited when I tell her about a milestone too – she's helped a lot."

Fast forward to now, and it's nearly been nearly 12 months since he last gambled. Jonathan is not sure why "quitting" this time around has been so successful, but he is so grateful.

"I'm almost up to a year now, so I've gone 10 months without a bet," he said.

"It's amazing. It's the longest I've ever gone, and it hasn't been that difficult. The only thing I have wanted to bet on was the election, but I avoided it.

"I don't watch any races. If one comes on, I just change the channel – I haven't had any serious attempts to put a bet on at all."

Even when Jonathan sees a betting ad on TV, something he thinks should be more regulated by the government, he has been able to avoid any temptation.

While he knows it's something he will continue to battle with for the rest of his life, Jonathan is determined to keep marking milestones – every month without gambling is a huge win.

He is sharing his story to raise awareness of gambling harm and encourage people to get help during GambleAware Week.

Jonathan encourages people who are struggling not to give up. If it weren't for his persistence, he would still be losing money, and he knows a lot of people are probably in situations just like him.

GambleAware Week is an annual initiative aimed at increasing community awareness of the risks of gambling and gambling harm. It also highlights support services that are available to anyone affected by gambling: for people who gamble and their families and friends.

This year it's happening from Monday 21 October to Sunday 27 October. If you need help, or would like to find out more, call 1800 497 065 or visit [www.catholiccare.org.au/GambleAware](http://www.catholiccare.org.au/GambleAware)

## Diocesan Resource Centre events

Address: Diocesan Resource Centre, Corner of Tudor & Parry Streets, Newcastle West

**Story Time:** Stories, songs, rhymes & craft for children from birth to 6 years.

1 November 10.15am - Wilfred Gordon McDonald Partridge - REGISTER AT: <https://forms.office.com/r/MSCAZL8ejN>

**Formation Friday:**

1 November 1pm to 2pm - Communion of Saints - REGISTER AT: <https://forms.office.com/r/1jBEVh2ctj>

**Human Library:**

Insights into Catholic Mission - 25 October at 10:15am REGISTER AT: <https://forms.office.com/r/X1f5xM55Eu>

**BBI Short Course:** Catholics Faith & Science

28 October & 4 November 4pm to 5.30pm REGISTER AT: <https://forms.office.com/r/8wYqgDUbcm>

## Pope Francis's Prayer Intention for October

We pray that the Church continue to sustain in all ways a Synodal lifestyle, as a sign of co-responsibility, promoting the participation, the communion and the mission shared among priests, religious and lay people.

