



**St John
Vianney**
Parish Morisset



TWELFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME YEAR B 23 JUNE 2024

When today's Gospel, describes the 'violent squall' and the 'great windstorm,' it sounds a lot like the fears we encounter every day. According to Psychologists, the most common 'waves breaking over the boat' of our lives are: job pressures, money concerns, health issues, and relationship worries, including divorce and loneliness.

And then there are our deeper fears: Am I good enough? Can I survive all the things that scare me? Living with any of these fears can easily cause us to scream out along with the disciples in today's Gospel.

Very often we have no control over the political and social developments of our society, we have little or no control over what other people are doing. Jesus, doesn't dismiss our terror. But, no matter what we are experiencing, we can, with his help, find peace. It is a peace which no person and no thing can take away from us.



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

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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/
(Please submit all Bulletin Notice requests to the parish office by 2pm Wednesdays)

UPCOMING WORSHIP TIMES :

- | | |
|----------|---------------------------------------|
| Saturday | 22nd June 5pm
Mass—Cooranbong |
| Sunday | 23rd June 9.30am
Mass—Morisset |
| Tuesday | 25th June 9.30am
Liturgy—Morisset |
| Friday | 28th June 10.30am
Mass—Morisset |
| Saturday | 29th June 5pm
Mass—Cooranbong |
| Sunday | 30th June 9.30am
Mass Morisset |
| Tuesday | 2nd July 9.30am
Liturgy—Morisset |
| Friday | 5th July 10.30am
Mass—Morisset |
| Saturday | 6th July 5pm
Family Mass—Morisset |
| Sunday | 7th July 9.30am
Mass—Morisset |
| Saturday | 13th July 5pm
Mass—Cooranbong |
| Sunday | 14th July 9.30am
Mass—Morisset |
| Saturday | 20th July 5pm
Family Mass—Morisset |
| Sunday | 21st July 9.30am
Mass—Morisset |

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TWELFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME Year B — Reflection 23rd June 2024

Each day we are bombarded by the media with images of dreadful human suffering: the deaths of so many civilians, especially the little children in Gaza, and the prospect of starvation there; the suffering of the Israeli families whose loved ones are still held hostage; the war in Ukraine, with the destruction of its beautiful cities and bombs raining down indiscriminately on apartment blocks as people sleep. Then, closer to home, there is the ongoing suffering caused by the Hunter Valley bus crash and the senseless slaughter of innocent people in the Bondi shopping complex. We hear the frequent reports of escalating numbers killed in instances of domestic violence. At this time, we may well find our faith being challenged! We may be crying out, "Where are you God? Why don't you stop this? Don't you care?"

Despite being experienced fishermen, this is how the disciples felt, when they were confronted with the frightening storm as they crossed the Sea of Galilee. They did not fully understand who Christ was, but they called on him in their panic. To their amazement he calmed the wind and the sea! Christ questioned them: "*Why are you so frightened? How is it that you have no faith?*"

God may well ask this question of us. It is in our darkest moments of sadness, loneliness or despair that we most need to remind ourselves of what God has done for us. Our God is a faithful God, who keeps his promises. A redeemer was promised to the Israelites! He came: the Son of God made Man, both divine and human, to teach us how to live our lives; to suffer and die for us in reparation for our sins, only to be rejected by many, despite his resurrection from the dead and ascension into heaven. Christ promised us that he would never leave us, that the Spirit would be with us once he had left this mortal earth. Now, with the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, the Faith lives on and salvation is there for all who want to accept it.

In his second letter to the Corinthians, Paul reminds us of this new reality: "*Even if we did once know Christ in the flesh, that is not how we know him now. And for anyone who is in Christ, there is a new creation; the old creation has gone, and now the new one is here.*"

God continues to be close to us through the Scriptures. Throughout both the Old and New Testaments, there are repeated reassurances that God is with us and will give us strength to deal with whatever trials we face, if only we call on Him.

From Isaiah: "Have no fear, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God." 41:10

And from John's Gospel: "Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. Not as the world gives peace do I give it to you. Do not be troubled; do not be afraid." 14:27

Let us pray that we may trust in our God and show, by the way we live our lives, that we see God in each other. Let us be confident that, whatever challenges we may be facing, Christ is always with us.

Pam Melvey

Watagan Deanery News

It was noted that the 'Season of Creation' is to be celebrated from September 1st to October 4th. In preparation for this season, it was proposed that during the four weeks of August the Gospel of John be used in mirroring the points of Laudate Si

Each parish in the Deanery will determine a local activity to express the season.

Another Deanery movie night/day was also proposed and considered. More info shortly.

Next Year is a Jubilee year and Bishop Michael Kennedy will be leading a Pilgrimage to Rome.

A Deanery Picnic has been proposed to help celebrate this Jubilee year in Speers Point Park. The date will be confirmed after the park has been booked with Lake Mac Council.

There will be a Safeguarding Audit of Warners Bay, Boolaroo, Toronto and Morisset parishes later in 2024.

Parish Pastoral Council News

Morisset Parish Pastoral Assembly was held after Mass on the Feast of Corpus Christie 2nd June in the Callinan Centre. The aim of the Assembly was to discern the direction and path the parish now needs to take moving forward in 2024

Approx 40 parishioners attended the Assembly, along with Fr Greg Barker VG, Fr Matthew Muller VG and Canonical Advisor, Fr Joseph Figurado Priest Supervisor, and Fr Daryl Mackie Assistant Priest of West Lake Macquarie.

The PPC met during the week to discuss the outcomes from the Assembly, and what they mean for the parish moving forward from the Assembly.

To help the PPC develop a succession plan and a parish vision for the future, the PPC is proposing that a questionnaire, canvassing the opinions of parishioners, be conducted at Mass in the coming weeks. This questionnaire will seek to find out the model of Parish parishioners would prefer, and how they could contribute with the implementing of their preferred model and ministry.

Whatever is the preferred model of parish, it will only work if people are prepared to contribute their stewardship.

Solemnity of our Lady of Perpetual Help – 27 June 2024

Our Lady of Perpetual Help is our Diocesan Patron and therefore is celebrated in the diocese as a solemnity.

World Refugee Day

World Refugee Day is an international day designated by the United Nations to honour refugees around the globe. It falls each year on 20 June and celebrates the strength and courage of people who have been forced to flee their home country to escape conflict or persecution.

World Refugee Day shines a light on the rights, needs and dreams of refugees, helping to mobilize political will and resources so refugees can not only survive but thrive. While it is important to protect and improve the lives of refugees every single day, international days like World Refugee Day help to focus global attention on the plight of those fleeing conflict or persecution. Many activities held on World Refugee Day create opportunities to support refugees.

World Refugee Day was held globally for the first time on 20 June 2001 to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees. It was originally known as Africa Refugee Day, before the United Nations General Assembly officially designated it as an international day in December 2000.

Vinnies Winter Cash Appeal

The Morisset Conference of the St Vincent de Paul Society, will hold their Winter Cash Appeal at the Masses on this weekend of 22nd and 23rd June 2024.

Pope Francis' prayer intention for June 2024

We pray that migrants fleeing from war or hunger, forced to undertake journeys full of danger and violence, find welcome and new opportunities in the countries that receive them.

Clergy Appointments

Bishop Michael Kennedy has appointed Fr Paul Chackanikunnel Assistant Priest at East Maitland and Deacon Solomon Okovido to Inner Newcastle. Fr Camillus Nwahia's appointment at East Maitland is concluding and he is taking some leave. He will receive another appointment upon his return.

Bishop Michael Kennedy will be away from the Diocese on Annual Leave from 17 – 30 June. Fr Matthew Muller VG is also currently on leave. Fr Greg Barker VG will be available for any urgent matters.

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?

What is the Ambo?

Ambo is derived from the Greek word "Step" or "Elevation".

A large reading desk.

In today's churches, there are specific instructions on the use of an Ambo. It must be stationary and keeping with the design of each church, in such a way that the ordained minister may be distinctly heard when addressing the congregation. Only the Readings, Responsorial Psalm, Homily and Universal Prayer (Prayers of Intercession) can be performed from the Ambo.

Ambos are freestanding making them different from a pulpit, which is a raised stage.

What is the sanctuary?

The sanctuary is the place where the altar stands, the Word of God is proclaimed, and the Priest and Deacon and other ministers perform their functions. It should be elevated and large enough to allow the Eucharist to be easily celebrated and seen.

With A Light Heart.

A television reporter at a local TV station was sent on assignment to interview a ninety-year-old woman who had just been married for the fourth time. The journalist began the interview with questions about her new husband.

"So, what does your new husband do?"

"He's a funeral director?" she replied

The reporter then asked if she wouldn't mind talking about her previous husbands and what they did for a living.

She paused, then said with a smile that her first husband was a banker. After he died, she wed a circus ringmaster. Widowed again, she married a man who later became a deacon in her parish. Finally, after outliving him, she tied the knot with the funeral director.

The journalist was staggered that she had married men with such diverse careers.

"Not at all," she told him. "I married one for the money, two for the show, three to get ready, and four to go.

NAIDOC Week

Naidoc Week, is an Australian observance lasting from the first Sunday in July until the following Sunday. The acronym NAIDOC stands for National Aborigines' and Islanders' Day Observance Committee. NAIDOC Week has its roots in the 1938 Day of Mourning, becoming a week-long event in 1975.

Coinciding with National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Sunday, all are welcome to attend this year's NAIDOC Week 2024 Ecumenical Prayer Service.

The theme this year is "Keep the Fire Burning. Blak, Loud and Proud!"

Celebrate and honour the rich cultural heritage and contributions of our First Nations people:

Venue: Christ Church Anglican Cathedral, Church Street, Newcastle
Time: 1:45pm for 2pm
Date: Sunday 7 July 2024
All Welcome

Thank you

The family of Joyce Fren wish to express their gratitude to all the members of SJV parish for the beautiful Celebration of Life for our matriach, Joyce on Thursday, June 13th. There is so much work behind the scenes to make a liturgy like this flow so well.

Thank you Fathers John and Peter, Uta and John, Rosanna, Pam and Mal, Heather and all the parish family who shared their love and prayers for mum. Blessings to you all.

A Reflection Day with Fr Kevin Dance CP – Tuesday 9 July 2024

All are invited to a day of reflection and Mass in Jesus, the Good Shepherd Parish, at Belmont Church Hall - 40 Ernest Street Belmont. On-site parking is available.

Arrive from 8.30am to sign in and enjoy a cuppa. Starts at 9am and finishes at 4.30pm.

Cost is by donation. Enquiries and registrations to Jan on 0438 252 657 or Email elmparish@mn.catholic.org.au RSVP 2/7/2024. BYO lunch. Morning tea provided.

Australian Catholic Communications Congress – 28 to 30 August 2024

The Australian Catholic Communications Congress is a triennial event bringing together Catholics seeking to learn new media and communications skills, network with each other and grow in their understanding of the Good News.

For more information, visit <https://mediacongress.catholic.au/about>

Question Box

Recently it was brought to the attention of the PPC, that often parishioners have matters of faith questions, and are not sure where to go with them for answers.

In an effort to help people with their questions, please place your question in the stainless steel mailbox outside the parish secretaries office, in the Callinan Centre, and the questions will be answered.

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 9th July 2024**. Bookings can be made online at the link at: <https://forms.office.com/r/wZtatkt01V> or by contacting our Parish Office.

Planned Giving Tax Receipts

We greatly appreciate those who support our parish through planned giving. A percentage of those contributions are **Tax Deductible for those who complete a TAX RETURN only.**

If you require a **TAX RECEIPT** for your planned giving contributions we ask that you complete the online form at: <https://forms.office.com/r/qfepk7wa0V> or call the Parish between 9am and 2pm Weekdays.

As the number of people who request a **TAX RECEIPT** is used to **calculate the percentage claimable as a deduction** you will need to lodge your request no later than 2pm on **Friday 28th June 2024**.

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 Donation 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.

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	J France D Peterson	D Peterson L Hutchinson
<u>PSALMIST:</u>	5PM 9.30AM	U France H White	J France U France
<u>GIFTS</u>	5PM 9.30AM	G Hutchinson L Hutchinson K Tonkin	K Lendon H White M Melvey P Melvey
<u>SERVERS</u>	5PM 9.30AM	M Melvey C Lawandos	M Melvey V Paulo
<u>AV</u>	5PM 9.30AM	J Vipan M Foo	U France J Vipan
<u>WELCOMERS</u>	5PM 9.30AM	K Lendon P Melvey	Cameron Family J France
<u>CHURCH CLEANING</u>	COOR MOR	F Dunn R Hay C Hay	TBA A Walker G Walker

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 adult please contact the Office of Safeguarding by Phone: 02 4979 1390 or Email: childprotection@mn.catholic.org.au, or visit their website for further information: www.officeofsafeguarding.org.au

UPCOMING FEAST DAYS MEMORIALS AND SOLEMINITIES

THE NATIVITY OF JOHN THE BAPTIST (S) - 24TH JUNE
 SAINT IRENAEUS (M) - 28TH JUNE
 SAINTS PETER AND PAUL VIGIL (S) - 28TH JUNE
 SAINTS PETER AND PAUL (S) - 29TH JUNE
 SAINT THOMAS (F) - 3RD JULY
 SAINT BENEDICT (M) - 11TH JULY
 SAINT BONAVENTURE (M) - 15TH JULY
 SAINT MARY MAGDALENE (F) - 22ND JULY
 SAINT JAMES (F) - 25TH JULY
 SAINTS JOACHIM AND ANNE (M) - 26TH JULY
 SAINTS MARTHA, MARY AND LAZARUS (M) - 29TH JULY

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

Anna Dussin, Mary Carapiet, Monica Gray, Koby Smith, Annette Boyd, Mary Monaghan, Clare Wallington, Donna Hazzard, Pam Mullaly, Tintumol Thomas, 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.



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



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



SUNDAY PRAYER SERVICE Twelfth Sunday in Ordinary Time B Sunday 23 Jun 2024

The Introductory Rites

Acknowledgement of Country

We acknowledge Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples as Australia's First Peoples and the Traditional Owners and Custodians of the land on which we work, live and learn. Especially the Awabakal and Darkinjung nations who are the traditional owners of the land our Parish encompasses. We honour and pay respect to, Elders past, present and emerging, we acknowledge the spiritual culture of all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples across Australia, 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 rescue those who are lost: Lord, have mercy.

All: Lord, have mercy.

Christ Jesus, you bring peace, not fear: Christ, have mercy.

All: Christ, have mercy.

Lord Jesus, you have shown us the way of love: 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
we are not afraid
for you care for us and watch over us.
Keep us close to you when the way is not clear
for you are our guide and our help.
We ask this through Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit,
for ever and ever.

All:

Amen.

The Liturgy of the Word

First Reading

Job 38:1. 8-11

A reading from the book of Job

Here I have set the boundaries of the sea.

From the heart of the tempest the Lord gave Job his answer. He said:

Who pent up the sea behind closed doors
when it leapt tumultuous out of the womb,
when I wrapped it in a robe of mist
and made black clouds its swaddling bands;
when I marked the bounds it was not to cross
and made it fast with a bolted gate?
Come thus far, I said, and no farther:
here your proud waves shall break.

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

The word of the Lord.

All reply:

Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 106:23-26. 28-31. R. v.1

**(R.) Give thanks to the Lord,
his love is everlasting.**

1. Some sailed to the sea in ships
to trade on the mighty waters.
These men have seen the Lord's deeds,
the wonders he does in the deep. **(R.)**
2. For he spoke; he summoned the gale,
tossing the waves of the sea
up to heaven and back into the deep;
their soul melted away in their distress. **(R.)**
3. Then they cried to the Lord in their need
and he rescued them from their distress.
He stilled the storm to a whisper:
all the waves of the sea were hushed. **(R.)**
4. They rejoiced because of the calm
and he led them to the haven they desired.
Let them thank the Lord for his love,
the wonders he does for men. **(R.)**

Second Reading

2 Corinthians 5:14-17

A reading from the second letter of St Paul to the Corinthians

All things are made new.

The love of Christ overwhelms us when we reflect that if one man has died for all, then all men should be dead; and the reason he died for all was so that living men should live no longer for themselves, but for him who died and was raised to life for them. From now onwards, therefore, we do not judge anyone by the standards of the flesh. Even if we did once know Christ in the flesh, that is not how we know him now. And for anyone who is in Christ, there is a new creation; the old creation has gone, and now the new one is here.

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 4:35-41

Who can this be? Even the wind and the sea obey him.

With the coming of evening, Jesus said to his disciples, 'Let us cross over to the other side.' And leaving the crowd behind they took him, just as he was, in the boat; and there were other boats with him. Then it began to blow a gale and the waves were breaking into the boat so that it was almost swamped. But he was in the stern, his head on the cushion, asleep. They woke him and said to him, 'Master, do you not care? We are going down!' And he woke up and rebuked the wind and said to the sea, 'Quiet now! Be calm!' And the wind dropped, and all was calm again. Then he said to them, 'Why are you so frightened? How is it that you have no faith?' They were filled with awe and said to one another, 'Who can this be? Even the wind and the sea obey him.'

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.

Q. Why might it have been important for the gospel writer to demonstrate Jesus' command over nature?

Q. In what ways does it matter whether or not this incident occurred as described?

Q. When have you felt like the disciples of the story: out of control in a storm?

Q. How do you try to create calm and order in stormy situations?

Q. How does prayer make a difference in chaotic or unsettling situations?

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: Brothers and sisters, with faith in God's mercy let us call upon the Lord.

Reader: That the Holy Church will be a fortress of security in restless times. In your goodness:

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: That hostile nations and races at war will set their differences aside according to Christ who makes all things new. In your goodness:

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: That those who live in dangerous and fearful conditions will know the comfort of Christ. In your goodness:

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: That governments, organisations, and individuals will cooperate in efforts to provide affordable housing to those seeking permanent, safe homes. In your goodness:

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: That charitable agencies will be well equipped as they prepare to support people during the winter months. In your goodness:

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: That we will continue to be aware of the ongoing threat of Covid-19 and other contagious illnesses, and take precautions, being ever mindful of those who are especially vulnerable. In your goodness:

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: That our parish community may set aside our daily busyness and recall the calmness of God's presence. In your goodness:

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: That all the sick will find healing and comfort in the Lord. In your goodness:

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: That all who have died will live forever in God's perfect love. In your goodness:

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader: God our Father, you calm the sea and command all of creation. Hear our prayers and help us to overcome our trials and storms as we long for a peaceful resting with you. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

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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Honouring a legacy through Hunter-based pilgrimage

Each year, Secondary Principals from Josephite-affiliated schools across Australia and New Zealand gather to explore and deepen their understanding of the Josephite charism.

CATHOLIC SCHOOLS OFFICE PUBLISHED JUNE 18, 2024

Over the past decade, St Mary's Ministry Coordinator, De-Anna Addicoat, has championed for the Pilgrimage to be held in the Hunter region, a site of great significance due to the lasting impact of the Josephite Sisters since their establishment in 1883.

This year's Pilgrimage began at St Joseph's Catholic College, Lochinvar and concluded at St Mary's Catholic College, Gateshead. The event provided an opportunity for members to deepen their knowledge of Julian Tenison Woods and St Mary's in living the Charism today.

This year's Pilgrimage featured an exhibition exploring the life of Fr. Julian Tenison Woods, who co-founded the Sisters of St Joseph with Mary MacKillop in 1866. Attendees, including teachers and students, gathered to observe the rich array of artifacts on display.

De-Anna Addicoat, along with Sister Jan Tranter, who joined the order in the 1960s, emphasised the importance of these pilgrimages as they highlight how such events honour the past while inspiring future generations to embody the Josephite spirit in their educational practices with Christ at the centre.

The legacy of the Josephite Sisters continues to thrive in schools through the dedicated work of principals and staff. Their commitment to the Josephite charism ensures that the values and teachings of Mary MacKillop and Julian Tenison Woods remain alive and influential in today's educational landscape. For more information on the Sisters of St Joseph, Lochinvar, visit [Home - Sisters of St Joseph Lochinvar \(ssjl.org.au\)](http://Home - Sisters of St Joseph Lochinvar (ssjl.org.au)).

Launch of support program SupportHer for female athletes

This past Thursday, several Secondary Sport Coordinators and the Leader of Sport for the Diocese attended the launch of the SupportHer Co program.

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Created to empower female athletes across Newcastle and the Hunter region, the program aims to offer sporting females support services with a holistic approach, including physical, mental and professional support.

Leader of Sport for the Diocese Bernadette Duggan met with Leigh Killian from Regional Development Australia Hunter prior to the launch to learn how the program could support female athletes in the Diocese.

The ambition of SupportHer is to prepare young girls for success in and out of the sporting arena in areas such as wellbeing, mindset, sponsorships, finances, sports nutrition, education and training opportunities, as well as strength and conditioning training.

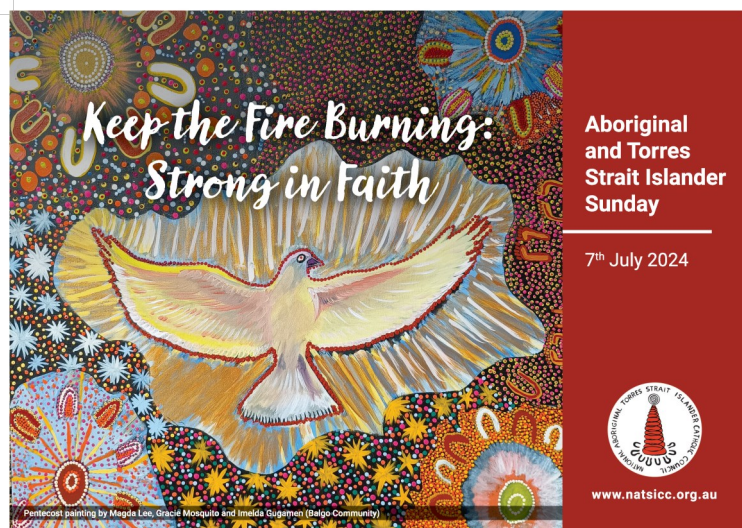
It will deliver practical advice to help elite athletes better navigate and control everyday essentials and multiple demands on their time.

In addition to Minister Yasmin Catley, three fantastic guest speakers - Christie Dawes, Layne Morgan and Leah Ollerton - addressed the room on the day of the launch.

"It was very exciting and a proud moment when the three guest speakers came on stage, as all these outstanding Hunter athletes attended our Catholic schools" said Bernadette Duggan.

Hearing their stories and their challenges only highlights the importance of a program such as SupportHer.

We are lucky to have many elite athletes in our Diocese, and SupportHer will benefit them greatly. Our secondary sport coordinators have encouraged our aspiring young female athletes to sign up to the program, with several already registering.



Aboriginal
and Torres
Strait Islander
Sunday

7th July 2024



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LITURGY MATTERS: Being Nourished at the Table of the Word

Over the course of this year, Louise Gannon and I have had the great joy and privilege of gathering with our Deacons, both permanent and transitional, and those who are in formation for ordination to that Office.

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Each of those gatherings has been an opportunity to explore with them the liturgical dimension of the diaconal ministry and – as is often the case – to learn and relearn some things that are important in our appreciation of what takes place when the Church gathers to celebrate Eucharist. Speaking personally, I have enjoyed each and every one of these gatherings for the opportunity it has presented.

Under the title of Ministering at Two Tables, the gatherings with our Deacons and diaconal candidates have reminded participants that the community gathers each Sunday around two tables: the Table of the Word and the Table of the Sacrament. In the General Instruction of the Roman Missal (GIRM), we read

The Mass consists in some sense of two parts, namely the Liturgy of the Word and the Liturgy of the Eucharist, these being so closely interconnected that they form but one single act of worship. For in the Mass is spread the table both of God's Word and of the Body of Christ, and from it the faithful are to be instructed and refreshed. (n. 28)

Our time with the participants in this journey, all good men who are dedicated to the ministry they currently exercise or for which they are preparing, has prompted me to reflect on the significance of the first table that the worshipping community encounters when it gathers on the Day of the Lord to celebrate that which is central to our Christian life. And part of that reflection has meant considering how the Liturgy of the Word is enacted during Sunday Mass.

Unlike family gatherings, where we sometimes must endure "Uncle Bob's Tall Tales" before we can sit down to eat the food laid out on the dining table, the Liturgy of the Word is not something we have to sit through before we get to the important part. As the GIRM reminds its readers

When the Sacred Scriptures are read in the Church, God himself speaks to his people, and Christ, present in his word, proclaims the Gospel.

Therefore, the readings from the Word of God are to be listened to reverently by everyone, for they are an element of the greatest importance in the Liturgy. (n. 29)

In all celebrations of the Church's liturgy, without exception, the proclamation of Sacred Scripture is a necessary and vital component of that liturgy. It is not possible to celebrate the liturgy of the Church without listening to God's Word being proclaimed. More importantly, rather than just listening to the proclamation of God's Word, we cannot celebrate the Church's liturgy without hearing God's Word.

In order to be nourished from the Table of the Word, then, the

Liturgy of the Word needs to be celebrated in a way that honours the importance that liturgy itself places on this part of what the Church celebrates on Sunday during Mass and also when, for any number of reasons, the Liturgy of the Word is celebrated in a 'stand-alone' fashion.

How can we make sure the Table of Word is given the significance it rightly deserves, either during Mass or elsewhere? How can we enact the Liturgy of the Word so that those who hear it are "instructed and refreshed"? Thankfully the GIRM, in making these observations about the importance of the Liturgy of the Word and the proclamation of Sacred Scripture, also provides some insights into how to encourage the promotion of being nourished from the Table of the Word.

In discussing the structure of the Mass, the GIRM addresses the way in which the various texts of the Mass, including the Liturgy of the Word, should be 'pronounced'. It says

In texts that are to be pronounced in a loud and clear voice, whether by the Priest or the Deacon, or by a reader, or by everyone, the voice should correspond to the genre of the text itself, that is, depending on whether it is a reading, a prayer, an explanatory comment, an acclamation, or a sung text; it should also be suited to the form of celebration and to the solemnity of the gathering. Consideration should also be given to the characteristics of different languages and of the culture of different peoples. (n.38)

All of this means that whether a person is proclaiming Scripture, leading a petition of the Universal Prayer, cantoring a Psalm or, for the ordained, preaching a homily, that action should be undertaken deliberately, with purpose, and with suitable preparation. It is this combination of deliberateness, purpose, and preparation that assists in the Liturgy of the Word becoming a source of nourishment for the gathered assembly. Indeed, the gathered assembly itself has a role to play in encouraging that nourishing nature of the Liturgy of the Word; the way in which the assembly responds can contribute to or diminish the nourishment experienced during a celebration.

The other way to encourage a nourishing celebration of the Word is to include silence during the Liturgy of the Word and during the liturgy more broadly. Unfortunately, silence is often overlooked in this part of the liturgy, especially in a world that does not generally value silence, yet it can make a significant contribution to the way the Liturgy of the Word is received by the worshipping community. In discussing the place of silence during the Liturgy of the Word, the GIRM reminds its readers

The Liturgy of the Word is to be celebrated in such a way as to favour meditation, and so any kind of haste such as hinders recollection is clearly to be avoided. In the course of it, brief periods of silence are also appropriate, accommodated to the assembled congregation; by means of these, under the action of the Holy Spirit, the Word of God may be grasped by the heart and a response through prayer may be prepared. It may be appropriate to observe such periods of silence, for example, before the Liturgy of the Word begins, after the First and Second Reading, and lastly at the conclusion of the Homily. (n. 56)

The observance of silence is part of the deliberateness and purpose that should permeate the enactment of the Liturgy of the Word, a recognition that it is not merely a prelude to something important but rather that it is important in and of itself.

Imagine what the celebration of the Liturgy of the Word might look like if it was proclaimed with deliberateness and purpose mixed with appropriate times of silence were observed. What would it look like? What would it feel like?

Would it be like sitting through "Uncle Bob's Tall Tales"? Or an encounter with the living Word of God made manifest in Jesus Christ?