



**St John
Vianney**
Parish Morisset



FIFTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME YEAR B 14 JULY 2024

In Today's Gospel Jesus sends out the apostles as his representatives.

Words like 'go' or 'send' are used many times in the Gospels. Clearly, Jesus did not intend that his followers would settle for a private "me-and-god" religion. We who follow Christ must continue this role.

In our day, we hear repeatedly of evangelisation. What that means is that evangelisation is not just bringing God's good news to those who are hearing it for the first time. Evangelisation is meant for those who have already heard the good news. It is their re-evangelisation. There is always the possibility of a new level of understanding and living the good news.

It's a great challenge to us to be active, not passive followers; to be not only receivers, but also givers.

It is said that it's not so much that the Church of Christ has a mission, as that the mission of Jesus Christ, has a Church



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
Morisset Parish Web site: www.vianneymorisset.org
Morisset Parish Facebook : <https://www.facebook.com/stjvparish>

UPCOMING WORSHIP TIMES :

Saturday	13th July 5pm Mass—Cooranbong
Sunday	14th July 9.30am Mass—Morisset
Friday	19th July 10.30am Mass—Morisset
Saturday	20th July 5pm Family Mass—Morisset
Sunday	21st July 9.30am Mass—Morisset
Tuesday	23rd July 9.30am Liturgy—Morisset
Friday	26th July 10.30am Mass—Morisset
Saturday	27th July 5pm Mass—Cooranbong
Sunday	28th July 9.30am Mass—Morisset
Tuesday	30th July 9.30am Liturgy—Morisset
Friday	2nd August 10.30am Mass—Morisset
Saturday	3rd August 5pm Family Mass—Morisset
Sunday	4th August 9.30am Mass—Morisset

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FIFTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME Year B — Reflection 14th July 2024

This account of the sending out of the twelve disciples appears in all three of the synoptic gospels (Matthew, Mark and Luke) and so originates from the Gospel of Mark. It is a commissioning of the disciples to spread the ministry of Jesus – teaching, healing and casting out demons. It seems rather harsh conditions under which Jesus sends out his disciples. They are to carry nothing but a staff – a walking stick – and to trust completely to the hospitality that they will encounter. For the disciples going out on their mission, it is a challenge to their faith and their trust that God will provide for them. The act of sending out the disciples can also be seen as a challenge to the towns and people that the disciples visited. A challenge for them to fulfil their duty of hospitality – of welcoming the stranger and caring for those in need. By travelling without a ‘fallback position’ the disciples are utterly at the mercy of those they encounter but there is an implicit demand on the other to extend hospitality to the one who seeks it.

How would the disciples be greeted in our world today if they arrived in a country or town with no food, no possessions and calling on the hospitality of the place in which they had arrived? Does this sound familiar? There are refugees and asylum seekers who arrive on our borders and seek the hospitality of our country. They are fleeing inhospitality – often starvation, war, persecution, poverty – and they ask for welcome and hospitality. Unfortunately, in the culture of fear and intolerance that has developed, they are not met with welcome and hospitality; they are met with obstacles, rejection and ill treatment.

Scriptural context – Mission and Ministry:

This seems an odd event in the narrative of the Gospel of Mark. The twelve are sent out and we are told that they ‘cast out many devils, and anointed many sick people with oil and cured them’. After a diversion to explain the fate of John the Baptist the gospel picks up again by simply stating that the disciples returned and reported all they had done. There is no explanation of why Jesus sent them out; no indication of how long they travelled; no evidence of what reception they were given. This was a prelude to the later ministry that would be performed; it was an instruction by Jesus for how the mission was to be carried on.

Have you thought? Sent in pairs:

It is interesting that the disciples were sent out in pairs. It is indicative of the fact that such ministry is difficult to accomplish alone. When we are engaged in ministry it is important that we seek and provide mutual support. Whether it is a hospitality ministry at Sunday Mass, visiting the sick, or a street ministry to the homeless, we will feel more confident and willing to reach out to others if we know that we are sharing that ministry and are supported by others. It is important to invite others to join in our ministry but it is also important to make sure that we support them as they enter into it.

Living the Gospel – Travelling Light:

Jesus made it plain to the disciples that they were to travel unencumbered by the extras of life. In fact they were to carry next to nothing and rely on the goodness of others. The challenge to travel lightly through life is a difficult one in a world today that is dominated by material possessions. In the race between the ‘haves’ and ‘have nots’ the ‘haves’ are way out in front. The gospel passages challenges us to think about the ‘things’ with which we burden ourselves. What is really necessary to live a good life and follow Jesus?

Questions for Us Today:

- 1/ What aspects of the gospel are challenging for your own life / lifestyle?
- 2/ What is the importance of ‘going out in pairs’ when undertaking mission and ministry?

3/ With what ministry of the Church could you become more involved? [From Greg Sunter – adapted by Dan Joyce]

Sea Sunday

This Sunday Catholics around Australia are being asked to reflect on and support seafarers.

Without seafarers, we would not have most of the items we rely on for daily living. They work tirelessly to bring into our ports products that sustain us and our economy. Seafarer’s rate highly across the world as victims of modern slavery, and many of them transit through the Port of Newcastle regularly.

To make a donation go to: <https://stellamarisaustralia.org/sea-sunday-appeal/> Or, please transfer funds to:

Account Name : The Apostleship of the Sea BSB : 062-784

Account Number: 100012583

Or, please send cheques to: Payee : The Apostleship of the Sea

Mail to: Stella Maris Australia, GPO Box 368, Canberra ACT 2601

Welcome

Baptism is a happy event and a time to ponder God’s loving gifts in our lives This Sunday we welcome Malakai, who is being presented for Baptism by his parents Jordan and Jorgia-May.

Safeguarding

The Leadership Team together with the Parish Secretary Rosanna, will be attending the second Parish Safeguarding Network (PSN) meeting for 2024 next Thursday 18 July at the Easts Leisure & Golf Club East Maitland. This meeting will focus on support services for Vulnerable Persons amongst other things.

Sacramental Team News

The next session for those involved in the Sacramental Process will be Saturday 20th July in the Callinan Centre at 4pm. It is important that children are ready to commence their sessions at 4pm, and then remain for 5pm Mass. Bishop Michael Kennedy will confer the Sacrament of Confirmation Friday 20th September.

Our Parish -Moving Forward

In the coming weeks at Mass, parishioners will have an opportunity to decide the model of parish they prefer in the form of a questionnaire. This questionnaire will also seek to find out how parishioners could contribute with the implementing of the chosen model.

A question asked at the recently held parish Assembly was ‘is there a possibility that a Parish Priest could be appointed to the parish?’

The Vicar General answered the question by saying that ‘Bishop Michael Kennedy’s preferred model of parish is the shared Parish Priest Model’. The priest would be non-residential and supported by a Parish Leadership Team that would assist in the day to day running of the parish. This Team would be required to meet regularly with the PP.’

Whatever model is chosen, for it to be successful, it is imperative that a strong commitment to the formation of the appropriate pastoral teams is undertaken to support a Synodal Model of Church. It is also of the utmost importance that all volunteers are compliant with current legislation and have appropriate formation.

No Tuesday Liturgy

There will be **No** Tuesday Liturgy during the School Holidays. **8-19 July.** Friday Mass will continue.- 10.30am

Mens Group

Some time back, the Leadership Team was approached by some male parishioners seeking to find out more about their 'Faith Tradition'.

These men have been meeting in a group bi-weekly, giving them the opportunity to reflect on their lives, who they are, and where they would like to go.

Our culture doesn't seem to encourage this kind of reflection, but it is very necessary if we are to grow in our lives. At present they are enjoying School Holidays. They will resume 6pm 23rd July. If you are interested contact John or Uta.

aMeN Camino-2024

Once again Diocesan pilgrims will be visiting the Church of St Patrick & St Bridget Cooranbong, as a part of the aMeN Camino 2024. Their visit will include celebrated prayer and liturgy, afternoon tea, and stories about the history of the church. The expected arrival is around 3pm on Monday 5th August

Hunter Community Alliance

What is the HCA?

The HCA is a broad-based collaboration and is inclusive of community, environmental, ethnic and cultural groups, unions and religious organisations. Its purpose is to build the power and influence of community organisations that share similar values and motivations. It also strives to strengthen civil society organisations through focused conversations, training and advocacy, so that the common good is advanced. The Catholic Diocese of Maitland/Newcastle and the Hunter Presbytery of the Uniting Church in Australia are members of HCA.

Recently HCA had discussions with our Parish Leaders and the Morisset Uniting Church, about the new development that is happening in the Morisset area, the lack of infrastructure to support the development, and the lack of direction being shown by our leaders. Since the meeting with HCA the Southlake's Anglican Church has also indicated their willingness to be part of future discussions.

Over the next few weeks HCA will be organising listening assemblies, to be held in late August early September for the local community. The date of the meeting will depend on the availability of the Minister for the Hunter. The date, venue and time of the assembly, will be advised shortly.

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?

Amice-The first vestment put on by a priest in vesting for mass. It is an oblong piece of linen worn across the shoulders underneath the alb. The wearing of the amice is optional.

Alb- A long white garment worn by ministers of the Eucharist. It is worn by bishops and priests underneath the other vestments at Mass.

Stole-A vestment that consists of a long narrow strip of cloth, matching in colour the vestments of the feast or season and worn by bishops and priests and deacons as a sign of their official ministry of the sacraments and preaching. It goes around the neck with both ends hanging down the front.

Chasuble-A vestment or garment worn by priests and bishops over all other garments when they celebrate Mass. The colour of the chasuble changes to suit the liturgical season.

With A Light Heart

One day a local Catholic fisherman who had a few too many whiskeys to ward off the cold, decided to try his luck on a frozen lake. He drilled a hole in the ice when a loud voice from above said, "There are no fish there."

The man walked several metres and drilled another hole. Again, the voice boomed, "There are no fish there."

Disillusioned but remaining determined, the man stumbled on for another ten metres and drilled another hole.

"I told you, there are no fish there."

Finally, the fisherman looked skyward and said, "God, is that you?"

"No, you idiot," the voice said. "I'm the skating rink manager."

aMeN caMiNo Community Walk

We invite you to sample the aMeN caMiNo experience through this Community Walk.

When: Saturday 17th August 2024. Time: 8am-11am

Where: Walk begins at Merewether.

Register your Interest here: <https://forms.office.com/r/w3tX1w69t3>

Season of Creation: Wonder – Weaving – Healing

Join Catholic Earthcare and their Season of Creation Convocation for three special events in September.

- Thurs 12 and Fri 13 September - online keynote presentations, workshops, discussions and spiritual experiences
- Sat 14 September at Diocesan Resource Centre - hear about and discuss regenerative projects within and beyond our diocese and consider how we can contribute. Morning tea and lunch supplied as part of registration.

Information/Registration at: www.trybooking.com/events/landing/1231165

aMeN caMiNo – Seasons of Creation Weekend Retreat

Join us for an aMeN caMiNo weekend experience during this year's Season of Creation at the beautiful Myall Coast. This caMiNo is suitable for both beginners and experienced walkers. It offers a one- or two-day experience on September 7th and 8th. For more information visit our website: mn.catholic.org.au/church-mission/catholic-life/faith-formation/amen-camino

2024 Magdalene Award Presentation

The 2024 Magdalene Award Presentation will take place in the Toohey Room at 841 Hunter Street, Newcastle West, following 9:30am Mass at the Sacred Heart Cathedral on Sunday 28 July. Should you wish to attend, RSVPs close on Friday 19 July, and can be submitted to kate.crncevic@mn.catholic.org.au

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 13th August 2024**. Bookings can be made online at the link at: <https://forms.office.com/r/wZtatkt01V> or by contacting our Parish Office.

Pope Francis' prayer intention for July 2024

We pray that the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick confer to those who receive it and their loved ones the power of the Lord and become ever more a visible sign of compassion and hope for all.

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	L Hutchinson R Hay	M Lawrence J Vipan
<u>PSALMIST:</u>	5PM 9.30AM	M Foo K Lendon	F Pascoe M Melvey
<u>GIFTS</u>	5PM 9.30AM	P Robertson B Cox J Hutchins K Amon	M Melvey D Whitten S Matthew
<u>SERVERS</u>	5PM 9.30AM	M Melvey V Paulo	R Lawandos C Lawandos
<u>AV</u>	5PM 9.30AM	D Peterson U France	E Lawandos M Foo
<u>WELCOMERS</u>	5PM 9.30AM	H White A Walker G Walker	M Melvey J Hutchins
<u>CHURCH CLEANING</u>	COOR MOR	K Lendon C Lawandos K Lendon	XXXX R Hay C Hay

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

- 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
- SAINT IGNATIUS OF LOYOLA (M) - 31ST JULY
- SAINT ALPHONSUS MARY DE LIGUORI (M) - 1ST AUGUST
- SAINT DOMINIC (M) - 3RD AUGUST
- SAINT JOHN VIANNEY (M) - 4TH AUGUST
- THE TRANSFIGURATION OF THE LORD (F) - 6TH AUGUST
- ST JOHN VIANNEY— 6TH AUGUST

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, Bruce Gillett.

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

Recently Deceased: Greta de Meyer, Joan Gillett



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



SUNDAY PRAYER SERVICE

Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time Year B

Sunday 14 Jul 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 have stamped us with the seal of the Holy Spirit:
Lord, have mercy.

All: Lord, have mercy.

Christ Jesus, you summon us to preach the good news: Christ,
have mercy.

All: Christ, have mercy.

Lord Jesus, you show us mercy and love: Lord, have mercy.

All: Lord, have mercy.

All:

Amen.

Opening Prayer

Leader:

Let us pray.

All pause for silent prayer.

God of all creation

you have sown the seeds of your kingdom
so that the world may flourish and grow in your love.

Help us to be ready to hear your Word,
and welcome it into our hearts.

May we build your kingdom of love on earth.

We ask this through Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit,
for ever and ever.

Lord Jesus,
help us to follow your call
to proclaim your name
to all people.

We make this prayer through
our Risen Lord Jesus.

All:

Amen.

The Liturgy of the Word

First Reading

Amos 7:12-15

A reading from the prophet Amos

Go, prophesy to my people.

Amaziah, the priest of Bethel, said to Amos, 'Go away, seer; get back to the land of Judah; earn your bread there, do your prophesying there. We want no more prophesying in Bethel; this is the royal sanctuary, the national temple.' 'I was no prophet, neither did I belong to any of the brotherhoods of prophets.' Amos replied to Amaziah, 'I was a shepherd, and looked after sycamores: but it was the Lord who took me from herding the flock, and the Lord who said, "Go, prophesy to my people Israel."'

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

The word of the Lord.

All reply:

Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 84:9-14. R. v.8

(R.) Lord, show us your mercy and love,
and grant us your salvation.

1. I will hear what the Lord God has to say,
a voice that speaks of peace,
peace for his people.
His help is near for those who fear him
and his glory will dwell in our land. (R.)
2. Mercy and faithfulness have met;
justice and peace have embraced.
Faithfulness shall spring from the earth
and justice look down from heaven. (R.)
3. The Lord will make us prosper
and our earth shall yield its fruit.
Justice shall march before him
and peace shall follow his steps. (R.)

Second Reading

Ephesians 1:3-14

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Ephesians

Before the world was made, he chose us in Christ.

Blessed be God the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with all the spiritual blessings of heaven in Christ.

Before the world was made, he chose us, chose us in Christ, to be holy and spotless, and to live through love in his presence, determined that we should become his adopted sons, through Jesus Christ

for his own kind purposes, to make us praise the glory of his grace, his free gift to us in the Beloved in whom, through his blood, we gain our freedom, the forgiveness of our sins.

Such is the richness of the grace which he has showered on us in all wisdom and insight.

He has let us know the mystery of his purpose, the hidden plan he so kindly made in Christ from the beginning to act upon when the times had run their course to the end: that he would bring everything together under Christ, as head, everything in the heavens and everything on earth.

And it is in him that we were claimed as God's own, chosen from the beginning, under the predetermined plan of the one who guides all things as he decides by his own will; chosen to be,

for his greater glory, the people who would put their hopes in Christ before he came. Now you too, in him, have heard the message of the truth and the good news of your salvation,

and have believed it: and you have been stamped with the seal of the Holy Spirit of the Promise, the pledge of our inheritance which brings freedom for those whom God has taken for his own, to make his glory praised.

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 6:7-13

He called the Twelve, and began to send them out. Jesus summoned the Twelve and began to send them out in pairs giving them authority over the unclean spirits. And he instructed them to take nothing for the journey except a staff – no bread, no haversack, no coppers for their purses. They were to wear sandals, but, he added, 'Do not take a spare tunic.' And he said to them, 'If you enter a house anywhere, stay there until you leave the district. And if any place does not welcome you and people refuse to listen to you, as you walk away shake off the dust from under your feet as a sign to them.' So they set off to preach repentance; and they cast out many devils, and anointed many sick people with oil and cured them.

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. What does this gospel say about missionary activity?

Q. What aspects of the gospel are challenging for your own life / lifestyle?

Q. What sign is intended when Jesus tells the disciples to shake off the dust from an unwelcoming town?

Q. What is the importance of 'going out in pairs' when undertaking mission and ministry?

Q. With what ministry of the Church could you become more involved?

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, as children of God, we make our prayers before the Lord.

Reader: That our Holy Father Pope Francis will lead the Church faithfully and preach the salvation of God. In your goodness:

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: That leaders of all levels of government will include God's plan in their decisions. In your goodness:

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: That those struggling with the message of Christ will come to know the truth and blessings it offers. In your goodness:

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: That our parish community will know we are each called by Christ as his children. In your goodness:

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: That the ongoing violence in Gaza and Ukraine will soon be brought to a halt. In your goodness:

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: That the new governments in the United Kingdom and France will lead with justice and integrity, and with special care for the vulnerable and marginalised. In your goodness:

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: That the work of seafarers will be acknowledged, and the spiritual and material needs of them and their families will be met. In your goodness:

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: That all who are sick will be rescued from their suffering. In your goodness:

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

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

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader: Loving Father, chosen in Christ, we are part of your kingdom on earth. Hear our prayers and inspire us with your message of truth as we share your word in the world. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

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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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Students support Seafarers

Students from St Pius X High School, Adamstown, recently connected with Mission to Seafarers and presented donations collected by the students.

DIOCESE OF MAITLAND-NEWCASTLE PUBLISHED JULY 02, 2024

Students from St Pius X High School, Adamstown, recently connected with Mission to Seafarers and presented donations collected by the students.

The students also walked the harbour to wave out some ships, celebrating Day of the Seafarer on 25 June.

Year 9 Student Representative Council member, Poppy Crouch, reflected on the importance of helping the Seafarers.

"Being a part of Mission to Seafarers is a great experience. I feel extremely happy when I see the joy that our input and care brings to the people onboard their ships.

"Most of these seafarers have limited contact with their families and are at sea for months while they continue to help provide Australia with the goods we need.

"Personally, as a member of the school's social justice portfolio, I find it very rewarding to know that we are making a difference in someone's life and showing them that they matter," she said.

Amanda Mohr, the school's Ministry Coordinator added, "Our Mission to Seafarers drive culminated in a Wave to a Seafarer and a visit to the Mission to Seafarers establishment in Wickham.

"What was really exciting though, was watching the students collaborate on the planning of the event and presenting to their peers about the importance of this venture to drive its success.

"The other important element for students was seeing the commitment of their teachers and support staff with donations and activities run by various faculties to really make this a whole school community success story," she said.

During July, Catholics will also have an opportunity to recognise and say thanks to the brave people who work at sea during Sea Sunday.

The annual event celebrates this essential work and raises awareness and funds for organisations that support the millions of men and women at sea.

For more information about Sea Sunday visit <https://stellamarisaustralia.org>

To learn more about Mission to Seafarers, watch the Church Without Walls video featuring our local Chaplain, Bernadette Barry. Which can be found at: https://youtu.be/XkNgC_8HLiE

About Mission to Seafarers

The Mission to Seafarers (MtS) provides help and support to nearly two million men and women who face danger every day to keep the global economy afloat. MtS works in more than 200 ports in 50 countries supporting seafarers of all ranks, nationalities and beliefs.

Through its global network of chaplains, staff and volunteers, MtS offers practical, emotional and spiritual support to seafarers through ship visits, drop-in seafarers' centres and a range of welfare and emergency support services. [Click here to find out more about MtS.](#)



FAITH MATTERS: God is a verb

Last Friday afternoon a group gathered in the Diocesan Library for our monthly Formation Friday session. This month's focus

involved exploring the Trinity and interconnectedness through the divine dance.

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The group watched a short clip featuring Richard Rohr who introduced the concept of a universe shaped by shared identity.

He explored how understanding the interconnectedness of all creation through the lens of the Trinity can transform our worldview and spiritual practice. Rohr emphasized the importance of seeing ourselves as part of a larger, divine flow, moving beyond individualism to embrace a shared, collective identity. One point which was raised and proceeded with deep theological reflection within the group causing some division was 'God is a verb'. Some people left the gathering still grappling with this concept, so I am using this opportunity to unpack the idea a little more.

Verbs are words that show an action, they are doing words, I first came across the concept of God being a verb whilst studying Father Stephen Bevans' theology. Bevans writes, 'I began to realize that our God—the God revealed to us by Jesus of Nazareth through the power of the Holy Spirit—might be best described as a verb, not a noun, as there is nothing about our God that is static.' He believes that we are in such relationship with God that a dance emerges, a great conga line that is moving through the world, inviting all of creation to join in the dance.

Bevans also writes about God being Mission. 'Not that God has a Mission, but that God is Mission. This is what God is in God's deepest self: self-diffusive love, freely creating, redeeming, healing, challenging that creation.' Bevans comments on a point that one of his colleagues made: 'God is love hitting a cosmic fan', if we think about this action of love which is tangible, and a verb, it should be far flung spread throughout the world. Jesus reveals the God who is a verb: 'God is a God who reigns, and God reigns by forgiving, healing, saving, reconciling, being in relation' and Jesus shows us what God is like.

'Jesus reveals the nature of God. The disciples experienced Jesus as alive in their midst, especially when they gathered to break bread and share the cup of wine in his memory. Through the memory of his actions of healing and loving, gradually they began to realize that his mission—the mission of God, was their mission, so they joined the conga line, and the mission began to have a church.'

Jesus taught by doing, he taught in parables which opened the opportunity for those who listened to embody this learning. What had started out as movement in Judaism had become something much bigger and greater, there was a spirit that was moving through the community and a mission to go out and do.

Bevans reflects, 'We are most church not when we are building up the church, but when we are outside of it: being good parents, being loving spouses, being diligent and honest in our workplace, treating our patients with care if we are health-workers, going the extra mile with our students if we are teachers, living lives responsible to the environment, being responsible citizens, sharing our resources with the needy, standing up for social justice, consciously using inclusive language, treating immigrants fairly, trying to understand people of other faiths, etc. etc. Mission calls the church into being to serve God's purposes in the world. The church does not have a mission, but the mission has a church. Imagine what our church

would be like if Christians really understood this and took this seriously.'

So, if Jesus reveals the nature of God which is love and mission, God is an outpouring to connect with the other to continue the divine dance, God must be a verb. This leads us to question how can we be love and mission to continue great conga line.



Paint and play: students connect with culture at NAIDOC netball day

This story was originally published in the Newcastle Herald.

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SIX Catholic schools across the Hunter have come together to paint totems and play netball to recognise NAIDOC week.

St Paul's Catholic College, Booragul, Catherine McAuley Catholic College, Medowie, St Pius X High School, Adamstown, St Joseph's College, Lochinvar and St Catherine's Catholic College, Singleton visited San Clemente High School in Mayfield on Thursday, July 4 for an Indigenous Community Netball Day.

While some opted for a round robin of netball, others got creative outside in the sun with Torres Strait Islander artist Toby Cedar, to create six artworks representing their school totems, and a seventh piece which incorporates them all.

"We have the main piece which is a dolphin totem and then six boomerangs around it which represents the other schools," year 10 student and proud Dharug woman Lily Ryan said.

"It's reflective of what today is about - connecting with our culture."

The school's Aboriginal food technology students catered the day with a barbecue lunch serving up hungry netball players throughout the afternoon.

"This morning we made coffee for teachers and then did some sausage sangas for the students," student and proud Worimi woman Bonnie Kopec said.

The idea to host an Indigenous Community Netball Day came from former San Clemente student Isabelle Pulbrook who started the first event in 2023.

Now a year 11 student at St Francis Xavier's College, Hamilton, she was invited back by her old school to help out on the day.

"I'm super proud. My friends and I organised this and we didn't think it would turn into a big thing. I'm so happy to see it make a return and be involved," she said.

She hopes to see it grow in the future and incorporate more sports like rugby league, soccer or basketball.

This year's NAIDOC theme is Keep the Fire Burning! Blak, Loud & Proud and San Clemente Aboriginal Education teacher Bryan Rowe said the netball day was a great way for students to engage in the theme.

"... because sports are a great way to get people moving, keeping their energy up. It really stokes that fire and it allows the students to build on their connections," he said.

NAIDOC Week 2024 runs from July 7 to July 14 this year.