



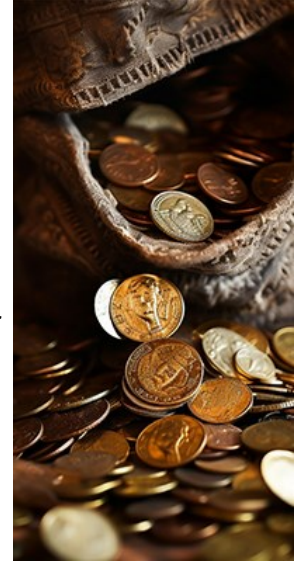
THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT YEAR B 03 MARCH 2024

We are now in the middle of Lent. For Forty days, the entire church, from the greatest to the least, is called to take a look at how our life reflects what we believe about God.

In the First Reading we hear that The Ten Commandments, are a map of life for people that have a special relationship with God.

The commandments are not to be approached in a negative way, because this leads to doing the bare minimum. We must approach them in a positive way, and keep them in the right spirit. We don't keep the commandments so that God will love us, we keep the commandments because God loves us.

Jesus said all God's laws could be reduced to two: love of God and love of neighbor. In truth there is only one law : the law of love.



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

- PARISH LEADERSHIP TEAM:** Uta France
John France
- PRIEST SUPERVISOR:** Fr Joseph Figuardo
SACRAMENTAL PRIEST: Fr John Purnell
- PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL:** Juliet Hutchins
Mal Melvey
Pam Melvey
Kerry Lendon
Rod Hay
- PARISH SECRETARY:** Rosanna Suckling

OFFICE: 60 Yambo Street, Morisset, PO Box 87, Ph: 02 4973.6859
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(We ask that you make an appointment to come to the office)
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Morisset Parish Web site: www.vianneymorisset.org
Morisset Parish Facebook : <https://www.facebook.com/stjvparish>
Morisset Parish Instagram : https://www.instagram.com/stjvparish_morisset/
Morisset Parish Bulletin Items: morparish@mn.catholic.org.au
(Please submit all Bulletin Notice requests to the parish office by 2pm Wednesdays)

Email the Parish Office to Subscribe for an Electronic Bulletin .

UPCOMING WORSHIP TIMES :

- | | |
|----------|--|
| Saturday | 2nd March 5pm
Family Mass—Morisset |
| Sunday | 3rd March 9.30am
Mass—Morisset |
| Tuesday | 5th March 9.30am
Liturgy—Morisset |
| Saturday | 9th March 5pm
Mass—Cooranbong |
| Sunday | 10th March 9.30am
Mass—Morisset |
| Tuesday | 12th March 9.30am
Liturgy—Morisset |
| Saturday | 16th March 5pm
Family Mass—Morisset |
| Sunday | 17th March 9.30am
Mass—Morisset |
| Tuesday | 19th March 9.30am
Liturgy—Morisset |
| Saturday | 23rd March 5pm
Mass—Cooranbong |
| Sunday | 24th March 9.30am
Mass—Morisset |
| Thursday | 28th March 7pm
Holy Thursday—Morisset |
| Friday | 29th March 3pm
Good Friday—Morisset |

Reflection for Third Sunday of Lent Year B — 3rd March 2024

On Ash Wednesday we were reminded of our call to love God and to love our neighbour as ourselves. Lent, for us, is a time to reflect and refresh our relationship with God and with those around us. Part of that is through prayer, alms giving and self-denial. This third Sunday of Lent may be a good time for each of us to assess our progress. Perhaps spending some time dwelling on the readings from this Mass could be helpful in this process.

Our first reading is from Exodus (20:1 – 17) and records the Ten Commandments handed down by God to Moses on Mt Sinai. These are foundational to the Great Commandment of Christ: *“You shall love the Lord, your God, with all your heart, with all your soul and with all your mind.* This is the first and the most important of the commandments. But there is another one like it: *You shall love your neighbour as yourself.”* (Matt. 22:37–39) These ten commandments provide “the Way”: the first four focus on our duties to God and the remaining six are a guide as to how we need to conduct ourselves in our relationships. They may well serve as a useful guide in our examination of conscience.

For the Jews, the Temple was a holy place, the focal point of their relationship with God. Here they presented their frequent offerings required by various rituals and feasts to be made to God by the priest on their behalf. They needed to be able to purchase a perfect animal or bird, depending on their means, so they needed the traders. They also needed the money changers. They had to exchange the Roman coins of everyday commerce, with Caesar’s image, for the temple coins; this was necessary to purchase their offering from the Temple traders. How then can we explain the fury of Christ as he made a whip from rope and drove the traders and moneychangers from the Temple? His anger is understandable if we realise that the Temple was no longer focused on the relationship with God but rather on the trade and the ritual of the observances. These had no bearing on how the people were living their lives. We also risk incurring God’s wrath if our attendance at Mass on Sunday does not translate into how we live our lives the rest of the week. Do we recognise God in our daily lives? How do we treat the people with whom we come in contact?

In response to the Jews’ demand that he justify his actions, Christ replied, “Destroy this sanctuary, and in three days I will raise it up.” They were full of disbelief, but John explains, “He was speaking of the sanctuary that was his body, and when Jesus rose from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this, and they believed the scripture and the words he had said.” In this Lenten season this is what we are preparing to celebrate in the resurrection of Christ, but first we have to journey with him through his suffering and death on the Cross.

In his first letter to the Corinthians Paul identifies the crucified Christ to those who follow him as “the power and wisdom of God”. Let us endeavour to be worthy of God’s love revealed in Christ’s sacrifice by making the best preparation we can and living our lives in accordance with what God asks of us. Mary McGlone’s comment on John’s Gospel impressed me: “When we say that God is love, we assert God’s presence is mediated in relationships. Institutions may facilitate our awareness of God’s presence but we encounter God in prayer and in the love among us that makes God’s own love palpable in our world.”

Pam Melvey

Pope Francis’ Prayer Intention for March 2024.

Pope Francis asks us to pray: *“for those around the world who risk their lives for the Gospel, to inspire the Church with their courage and missionary zeal.”*

Bishop Michael’s Visit

Notification was received on Wednesday from the Bishops Office, that Bishop Michael Kennedy will visit our Parish, on the weekend of the 9th and 10th March. He will celebrate the 5pm Vigil Mass at Cooranbong and 9.30am Sunday Mass, at Morisset.

A “Community Cuppa” will be held after Mass at Morisset on Sunday 10th March in the Callinan Centre.

During his visit on this occasion, Bishop Michael will not confer the Sacrament of Confirmation, or be available for private meetings Bishop Michael will Confer the Sacrament of Confirmation later in the year when the dates are set.

Easter Reconciliation Service

Our Watagan Deanery “Lenten Journey” program includes a Reconciliation Service with each parish hosting a service each week refer to the Flyer in the Noticeboard or take one from the back of the church.

Morisset will be hosting Week 4—Carry the Cross to Golgotha on Tuesday 12th March at 6.30pm in our Morisset Church. We will not be holding a second reconciliation service before Easter.

Lenten Journey

Lent is a time to examine our ways, repent our failings and imitate God’s love and mercy. The season culminates in the Easter liturgies, the Triduum, as the church recalls the paschal mystery. With hope and grace, we welcome this season of repentance and renewal.

To promote Lent, the Watagan Deanery has organised a ‘Lenten Journey’ and Reconciliation Services, hosted by each of the Parishes in the Deanery, at 6.30pm each week, during Lent.

Week 3-Toronto 5th March,
Week 4- Morisset 12th March,
Week 5-Warners Bay- 19th March.

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?

Standing in mass, is the most ancient of liturgical positions. In fact, kneeling on Sunday and during the fifty days of the Easter season was forbidden by the first ecumenical council of Nicea (325). It was the ordinary position of worship for almost the first thousand years of Christianity.

Sitting. There is no religious significance to the position of sitting. It is a posture of receptive listening and resting. It became popular for the listening parts of the Mass only after pews were introduced into churches in the 16th century.

With A Light Heart.

Lying on his deathbed, a rich miserly old man calls to his long-suffering wife.

“I want to take all my money with me. Promise me you’ll put it in the coffin.”

She agrees and after the man dies, his widow attends the memorial service with her best friend. Just before the undertaker closes the coffin, she places a small metal box inside. Her friend looks at her in horror. “Surely,” she says, “you didn’t put the money in there.”

“I did promise him I would,” the widow answers. “So, I got it all together, deposited every penny in my account, and wrote him a check.

If he can cash it, he can spend it.”



Project Compassion

Not having access to a reliable source of clean water was very difficult for Leaia and her family. But with the support of Caritas Australia, a water tank was installed at their home, improving their health and living conditions.

You can donate through Project Compassion donation boxes and envelopes available from the back of the church, or by visiting our parish Project Compassion fundraising page at:

<https://parishes.projectcompassion.org.au/o/morisset-catholic-parish-2264> or by calling 1800 024 413.

Chrism Mass

Each year during Holy Week all the faithful of the Church of Maitland-Newcastle are invited to gather with Bishop Michael Kennedy for the Chrism Mass. Here we bless and consecrate the Sacred Oils that will be used for ministry during the year.

Join us on Tuesday 26 March from 7pm at Sacred Heart Cathedral.

All are welcome, read more about it: <https://mnnews.today/liturgy-matters/2024/57932-liturgy-matters-come-on-down-to-the-chrism-mass/>

Pints with a Purpose

Our friends from Realtalk are joining us for a bonus Pints with a Purpose!

This session breaks open topics surrounding sex, relationships, self-worth, and personal identity.

This encompasses understanding more about who we are, the desires we have and the connections between these desires and our physical bodies.

Date: Monday 4 March **Time:** Gather from 6pm for dinner (at own cost), talk will begin at 7pm in the Hudson room.

Location: Sydney Junction Hotel.

“Rigorous” Audit of Catholic Safety

Story published in the Newcastle Herald, 29 February 2024:

A RIGOROUS report has found Catholic schools and parishes across the Hunter are meeting key safety requirements to protect children and adults at risk from abuse.

The safeguarding audit, which occurs every three years, was published by Australian Catholic Safeguarding Ltd (ACSL), and scoped across the Catholic Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle.

It found a 98 per cent compliance with the National Catholic Safeguarding standards (NCSS).

The Bishop of Maitland-Newcastle, Michael Kennedy, asked for the audit to be "rigorous" in its assessment following the Diocese's dark history.

"I believed this rigour was particularly important because our Diocese has been so terribly affected by the scourge of child sexual abuse and because so many survivors are suffering ongoing, even lifelong trauma," he said.

An independent legal firm whose senior auditor was a solicitor for the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse conducted the audit with ACSL, interviewing over 100 parishioners, students and parents, clergy, employees and volunteers.

Site audits were conducted over 34 per cent of the Maitland-Newcastle parishes, three schools and head offices.

The ACSL-Prolegis audit found that 96 (98 per cent) out of the 98 relevant indicators were 'Developed and Embedded' or 'Developed'.

Seven recommendations were made to improve safeguarding practices within the Diocese and were accepted and are being implemented. There were no high priority recommendations made.

Bishop Kennedy said he was pleased with the auditors' summary judgement that said that "the Diocese is successfully implementing and embedding a culture of safeguarding throughout its organisation".

"[But] there is more to do," he said.

"I assure you that over the coming years the Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle will maintain its current momentum and will continue to refine and improve our safeguarding knowledge and practices, so that the safeguarding of each child and every vulnerable person is a wholly integrated and intrinsic part of everything that we do in our Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle."

The Catholic Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle is continuing to make changes with plans to rename Adamstown's St Pius X high school to Trinity Catholic College.

ACSL is working with Australian Catholic Church organisations, including dioceses, to reach the goal of having all Catholic dioceses and Religious Institutions that engage with children audited or reviewed against the NCSS by 2025.

ACSL chief executive officer, Dr Ursula Stephens acknowledged the efforts of the Dio to read the Diocese Press release and link to read the full audit go to : <https://www.mn.catholic.org.au/news-events/press-releases/safeguarding-audit-report-for-the-catholic-diocese-of-maitland-newcastle/>

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 run on be held on Wednesday 13th March instead of Tuesday 12th March due to the Watagan Deanery Lenten Journey. Bookings can be made online at the link at: <https://forms.office.com/r/wZtatkt01V> or by contacting our Parish Office.

Review of Confirmation Guidance and Procedures

All parishioners, parents and sponsors, ministers and anyone else involved in the preparation and celebration of Confirmation over recent years, is invited to participate in our review process. Ideally please read 'Liturgy Matters: It's Time – Christian Initiation and Confirmation Review (13 Feb 2024)' where everything is explained and the 'Review Document' is available. You can access the Review Document directly by using the following link: <https://www.mn.catholic.org.au/media/6754/confirmation-review-process.pdf>

The closing date is 17 March. With thanks, Louise Gannon rsj

Way of the Cross

Our Diocese is blessed with rich diversity. This year's Ecumenical Way of the Cross, held on the 5th Sunday of Lent, invites us into a multicultural journey of remembrance. As we relive the story of Jesus' Passion, we recall the stories that have brought us together. This event is a celebrated gathering of our wider community and one not to be missed. When: Sunday 17 March, 3pm (you are invited to gather from 2pm) Where: St Joseph's Toronto Church, 140 Wangi Road, Toronto

SUPPORTING THE CLERGY / 1st Collection

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

SUPPORTING OUR PARISH / 2nd Collection

If you would like to make contributions to support our Parish please do so at Mass via the RED bucket or deposit directly into the Parish Account our details are: Account Name: CCF BSB:062815 Account Number: 00328161 one of the following Payment References are required by CCF for all deposits: 5004 or 5004 + SURNAME or 5004 + PG + your Giver Number, or 5004 + PG + SURNAME, or you can use the Online Payments 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 Whitten	D Peterson M Shamley
<u>PSALMIST:</u>	5PM 9.30AM	F Pascoe H White	U France U France
<u>GIFTS</u>	5PM 9.30AM	K Lendon A Walker G Walker	G Hutchinson L Hutchinson K Tonkin A Dussin
<u>SERVERS</u>	5PM 9.30AM	M Melvey F Dyson V Paulo	M Melvey J Lawandos
<u>AV</u>	5PM 9.30AM	J Vipan T Alexander	J France M Fowler
<u>WELCOMERS</u>	5PM 9.30AM	TBA A Walker G Walker	Cameron Family J Hutchins
<u>CHURCH CLEANING</u>	COOR MOR	XXXX R & C Hay	Cameron Family A & G Walker

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

UPCOMING FEAST DAYS MEMORIALS AND SOLEMNITIES

SAINTS PERPETUA AND FELICITY (M) - 7TH MAR
 SAINT PATRICK (S) - 18TH MAR
 SAINT JOSEPH (S) - 19TH MAR
 PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD - 24TH MAR
 THURSDAY OF THE LORD'S SUPPER - 28TH MAR
 FRIDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD - 29TH MAR
 PASCHAL VIGIL IN THE HOLY NIGHT - 30TH MAR
 SUNDAY OF THE RESURRECTION - 31ST MAR
 THE ANNUNCIATION OF THE LORD (S) - 8TH APR
 SAINT STANISLAUS (M) - 11TH APR
 ANZAC DAY—25TH APR

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

Koby Smith, Mick Styles, Robyn Blood, Sr Patricia Adams rsm, Annette Boyd, Mary Monaghan, Clare Wallington, Donna Hazzard, Pam Mullaly, Tintumol Thomas, Pat Findley, Les Findley, Peter Martyn, Bernadette Martin, Joan Gillett, Bruce Gillett.

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



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 Second Sunday of Lent Year B Sunday 25 Feb 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 God
who has reconciled us through Christ
and renews us by his grace.

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.

In union with the whole Church,
we call upon the mercy of the Lord
in this season of repentance and renewal.

Opening Rite

LITANY OF PRAISE

Leader:

The Lord is rich in mercy and kindness.
Let us prepare ourselves to hear God’s Word
and praise the Lord Jesus Christ.

A brief period of silence follows.

Leader:

Lord Jesus, you are the wisdom of God: Lord, have mercy.

All: Lord, have mercy.

Christ Jesus, you call us to have a change of heart: Christ, have mercy.

All: Christ, have mercy.

Lord Jesus, your law is worth more than gold: 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:

All: Amen.

Opening Prayer

Leader:

Let us pray.

All pause for silent prayer.

God of mercy,
you never give up on us.
Open our minds and hearts
to your presence among us.
Give us your living water
so that we may never thirst again.
We make this prayer through Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit,
for ever and ever.

All:

Amen.

The Liturgy of the Word

First Reading

Exodus 20:1-17

A reading from the book of Exodus

The Law was given through Moses.

God spoke all these words. He said, ‘I am the Lord your God who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery. ‘You shall have no gods except me. ‘You shall not make yourself a carved image or any likeness of anything in heaven or on earth beneath or in the waters under the earth; you shall not bow down to them or serve them. For I, the Lord your God, am a jealous God and I punish the father’s fault in the sons, the grandsons, and the great-grandsons of those who hate me; but I show kindness to thousands of those who love me and keep my commandments. ‘You shall not utter the name of the Lord your God to misuse it, for the Lord will not leave unpunished the man who utters his name to misuse it. ‘Remember the sabbath day and keep it holy. For six days you shall labour and do all your work, but the seventh day is a sabbath for the Lord your God. You shall do no work on that day, neither you nor your son nor your daughter nor your servants, men or women, not your animals nor the stranger who lives with you. For in six days the Lord made the heavens and the earth and the sea and all that these hold, but on the seventh day he rested; that is why the Lord has blessed the sabbath day and made it sacred. ‘Honour your father and your mother so that you may have a long life in the land that the Lord your God has given to you. ‘You shall not kill. ‘You shall not commit adultery. ‘You shall not steal. ‘You shall not bear false witness against your neighbour. ‘You shall not covet your neighbour’s house. You shall not covet your neighbour’s wife, or his servant, man or woman, or his ox, or his donkey, or anything that is his.’

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

The word of the Lord.

All reply:

Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 18:8-11. R. Jn 6:68

(R.) Lord, you have the words of everlasting life.

1. The law of the Lord is perfect,
it revives the soul.
The rule of the Lord is to be trusted,
it gives wisdom to the simple. **(R.)**
2. The precepts of the Lord are right,
they gladden the heart.
The command of the Lord is clear,
it gives light to the eyes. **(R.)**
3. The fear of the Lord is holy,
abiding for ever.
The decrees of the Lord are truth
and all of them just. **(R.)**
4. They are more to be desired than gold,
than the purest of gold
and sweeter are they than honey,
than honey from the comb. **(R.)**

Second Reading

1 Corinthians 1:22-25

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

*We are preaching a crucified Christ, a scandal to many,
but to those who have been called, the wisdom of God.*

While the Jews demand miracles and the Greeks look for wisdom, here are we preaching a crucified Christ; to the Jews an obstacle that they cannot get over, to the pagans madness, but to those who have been called, whether they are Jews or Greeks, a Christ who is the power and the wisdom of God. For God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength.

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.

John 2:13-25

Destroy this sanctuary, and in three days I will raise it up.

Just before the Jewish Passover Jesus went up to Jerusalem, and in the Temple he found people selling cattle and sheep and pigeons, and the money changers sitting at their counters there. Making a whip out of some cord, he drove them all out of the Temple, cattle and sheep as well, scattered the money changers' coins, knocked their tables over and said to the pigeon-sellers, 'Take all this out of here and stop turning my Father's house into a market.' Then his disciples remembered the words of scripture: 'Zeal for your house will devour me. The Jews intervened and said, 'What sign can you show us to justify what you have done?' Jesus answered, 'Destroy this sanctuary, and in three days I will raise it up.' The Jews replied, 'It has taken forty-six years to build this sanctuary: are you going to raise it up in three days?' But he was speaking of the sanctuary that was his body, and when Jesus rose from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this, and they believed the scripture and the words he had said. During his stay in Jerusalem for the Passover many believed in his name when they saw the signs that he gave, but Jesus knew them all and did not trust himself to them; he never needed evidence about any man; he could tell what a man had in 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.

Profession of Faith

Leader:

In union with the whole Church
let us profess our faith.

All:

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

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

**who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died and was buried;
he descended into hell;
on the third day he rose again from the dead;
he ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty;
from there he will come to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and life everlasting. Amen.**

Prayers of the Faithful

Leader: Sisters and brothers, let us make our prayers before
God, who has the words of eternal life.

Reader: That our Holy Father, Pope Francis, may
continue to bring all Christians closer to God's
love. In your mercy:

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: That the millions of refugees and displaced
persons throughout the world will find a place
of freedom, peace, and safety for themselves
and their families. In your mercy:

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: That nations and leaders will resist the
temptation of money and greed. In your mercy:

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: That, through our support of Project
Compassion, more communities will have
access to a clean water supply and healthy
sanitation to help them build a better future. In
your mercy:

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: That children everywhere will be loved and
nurtured, and protected from all forms of harm
and abuse. In your mercy:

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: That leaders of all faiths will continue to take
strong steps towards collective action in halting
the damage caused by climate change. In your
mercy:

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: That all the sick and housebound will be revived in body and soul, especially those who are members of our families and community. In your mercy:

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: That all who have died will live forever with the Lord in everlasting joy, especially those who were members of our families and community. In your mercy:

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader: Heavenly Father, in wisdom you reveal your law to us. Hear our prayers and give us strength to trust in your mercy and follow your commands. 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 bless us in all things through Christ so that we may work together in loving service.

All make the sign of the cross during the blessing.

All:

Amen.

Dismissal

Leader:

Let us go in peace.

All:

Thanks be to God.

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LITURGY MATTERS: Come on down to the Chrism Mass

The Chrism Mass is one of my favourite things. It's big! It's brassy! The voice of the faithful almost lifts the roof from the cathedral! The fragrance of Chrism fills the air. The cathedral and its precinct are abuzz with the joy of people meeting up from across the diocese. This is an opportunity not to be missed! Tuesday 26 March, 7.00pm at the Sacred Heart Cathedral. Come on down!

LOUISE GANNON RSJ PUBLISHED FEBRUARY 26, 2024

The Chrism Mass is one of our major diocesan liturgies. We come from our parishes, our schools, our agencies and ministry groups to join together with Bishop Michael and all the clergy, reminding us that we belong to something bigger. It is this great diversity that enriches and strengthens our diocesan unity. It's never either/or – parish or diocese. It is always both/and.

And why do we gather for a Chrism Mass? What's it all about? Strengthened by our rich diversity, we the faithful, are all sharers and participants in the one priesthood of Christ. To quote scripture, together we are 'a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a consecrated nation, a people set apart to sing the praises of God ...' [1 Pt 2:9]

Chosen, consecrated and set apart for what? It's certainly not to sit back and relax, or only to bathe in the warm glow of God's love. We are chosen and anointed to continue the mission of Christ in the world here and now. At every Chrism Mass the same Word of God is proclaimed:

Jesus came to Nazara, where he had been brought up, and went into the synagogue on the sabbath day as he usually did. He stood up to read, and they handed him the scroll of the prophet Isaiah. Unrolling the scroll he found the place where it is written:

*The spirit of the Lord has been given to me,
for he has anointed me.*

*He has sent me to bring the good news to the poor,
to proclaim liberty to captives
and to the blind, new sight,
to set the downtrodden free,
to proclaim the Lord's year of favour.*

He then rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the assistant and sat down. And all eyes in the synagogue were fixed on him. Then he began to speak to them, 'This text is being fulfilled today even as you listen.' [Lk 4:16-21]

We, the members of Christ's body, are anointed for this mission: to bring good news to the poor; to proclaim liberty to captives, sight to the blind and to set the downtrodden free.

Our core business is evangelisation – proclaiming the Good News of God's love – and baptising, which flows into the full process of Christian Initiation. [cf Mt 28:19-20]

Central to our shared mission and community is our sacramental life where we are anointed and fed to become more truly and deeply members of Christ's body.

To empower and strengthen is for this life and mission, we the faithful are called to gather annually with our bishop to bless and consecrate the Sacred Oils for use in ministries of initiation, healing and consecration.

The Oil of Chrism is consecrated for use at baptisms and confirmations, for the ordination of priests and bishops, and for the dedication of churches and altars.

The Oil of Catechumens is blessed for use with catechumens and the Elect during their journey to and celebration of Christian Initiation.

The Oil of the Sick is blessed for use to bring comfort and strength to those who are sick and suffering.

I invite you to take some time to look at the prayers for the blessing and consecration of the Sacred Oils. A simple resource for prayer and reflection on the texts is available [here](#). Note the language – ‘us’ and ‘we’. ‘We pray.’ As with the language of all our liturgical celebrations, this is something we do together. Bishop Michael prays the prayers in our name. The prayers remind us that the ministries we are anointed for are the responsibility of all of us. The ministry of Initiation is the work of the whole parish. The care for the sick, the dying and the bereaved is the work of the whole parish. The work of consecrating the world to God is what we are all sent to do.

Our Sacred Oils are prepared by an enthusiastic team of people from across the diocese. This year the chrism (perfume) we are using is used by more than 30 dioceses around Australia and beyond – a sign of our belonging to an even larger expression of Church. Also, this year our mix of Olive Oil includes oil brought back from the Holy land last year by Bishop Michael and Fr Greg Barker.

Bishop Michael writes

While in the Holy Land ... we were blessed to visit the olive grove in the Garden of Gethsemane. We were doubly blessed when our enquiries about olive oil led to the Franciscan custodians gifting us a container of olive oil pressed from the olives picked from the oldest trees in the garden. Anybody who has visited Jerusalem knows how jealously these trees are guarded as they provide a physical link back to Jesus.

Fr Greg writes

We visited a number of sites in Palestine and met Christians and others living side by side, sharing life even in the midst of turmoil. It seemed appropriate given the land on which we were pilgrims, moving amongst both the natural and man-made wonders that Jesus himself had visited including olive groves, to bring back oil from there for use here. I was also fortunate to visit this ancient land once again toward the end of 2023 with our Catholic School leaders. We visited the Holy Child Program in Bethlehem, a centre educating children disadvantaged by poverty, disability and violence or a combination of these factors. The teachers spend much of their own time and money helping these kids, including pressing and selling olive oil. They gifted us a bottle of the oil they themselves had grown and pressed and asked us to pray for them and for peace in their land so that every child no matter their circumstance would have the chance to prosper.

The Chrism Mass is one of my favourite things because it renews me and inspires me and connects me to my sisters and brothers with whom I share the gift of faith and the mission it impels us into. I am changed by it, and I need to experience that with you and all those who will gather on Tuesday 26 March at 7.00pm in the Cathedral.

I particularly encourage parish communities to bring along your Catechumens, Elect and Candidates for full communion. Invite those families who hope to present their children for the Sacraments of Initiation. I encourage school leaders to come along and bring members of staff and families who you know are searching for that ‘more’ that we know can only be found in God. And finally, as usual **musicians – voice and instrumentalists** - who would like to join the music ministry at the Chrism Mass are warmly welcome. When you click on the invitation link below the flyer gives more detail and a QR code to scan to register. Registration is necessary so all the right music can be arranged for the first practice.

A template for parishes looking for a ritual to receive the oils sent by Bishop Michael from the Chrism Mass is available as a [pdf](#) or [Word document download](#).

There is nothing like good liturgy to fan the flame of faith in our hearts. I look forward to seeing you at the Chrism Mass.

Diocesan Liturgy Council Update

To keep abreast of the work of the [Diocesan Liturgy Council](#) you can review the Report from the February meeting [here](#).

Acknowledgements

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SJV School News

Open Day is on Tuesday April 9th (3.30-5pm) Prospective families are welcome, especially those who are looking to enrol their children in kindergarten 2025. It is an opportunity to meet the Principal and teachers. Tours of classrooms, playground, and facilities with the student leaders

Café Night Real Women Placing Value on Womanhood

Date: Monday, 18 March 2024 Time: 7.30pm - 9.15pm

Tea or Coffee served from 7.00pm Where: St Mary's Catholic Church Hall Bayview Street, Warners Bay

Guest Speaker: Iona Rossley

Iona Rossley describes herself as a speaker, author and an athlete. However, as Iona 's life has taken a number of twists and turns over the years, her defining characteristic has become her deep faith and she has found her true home with

Cost: Donation of \$15 per person -

*Specific diet requirements will be met as far as possible. Please advise when purchasing tickets.

Bookings will open at St Mary's Hall, Warners Bay on Saturday 24 February 2024 10am to 12pm.

Bookings may also be made by phone if you are unable to be at hall. Phone: Sue - 0417 091255 or Marie- 0429 191245.

Catholic Parish of Boolaroo/Warners Bay



EASTER MASS TIMES LAKE REGION

HOLY THURSDAY: 28 MARCH 2024
7.00PM - WARNERS BAY
7.00PM - TORONTO
7.00PM - MORISSET

GOOD FRIDAY: 29 MARCH 2024
10.00AM - WARNERS BAY (STATIONS)
3.00PM - WARNERS BAY (SERVICE)
3.00PM - TORONTO
3.00PM - MORISSET

EASTER SATURDAY VIGIL: 30 MARCH 2024
6.30PM - WARNERS BAY
6.00PM - TORONTO
6.00PM - MORISSET

EASTER SUNDAY: 31 MARCH 2024
8.00AM - WARNERS BAY
10.00AM - BOORAGUL
9.00AM - TORONTO
9.30AM - MORISSET

The flyer features a central image of a cross made from olive branches. The background is a light green and blue watercolor wash.