



**St John
Vianney**
Parish Morisset



TWENTY-NINETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME YEAR B 20 OCTOBER 2024

The Gospel this Sunday provides an opportunity for Jesus to teach the disciples about servant leadership.

This passage is one of the most well-known parts of Jesus' message. Those who place themselves first, who seek to become powerful and to use that power over others, will be made last in the reign of God.

Today, in Australia, we are challenged to embrace the path of authentic Christian discipleship, based on the teaching and example of Christ.

May we follow the example of Christ by living out a courageous discipleship in silent hope, in vulnerable trust, in humble service and self-emptying love .

Let us not be empire builders, but Kingdom builders.



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>

UPCOMING WORSHIP TIMES :

| | |
|----------|--|
| Saturday | 19th October 5pm Family Mass—Morisset |
| Sunday | 20th October 9.30am Mass—Morisset |
| Tuesday | 22nd October 9.30am Liturgy—Morisset |
| Friday | 25th October 10.30am Mass—Morisset |
| Saturday | 26th October 5pm Mass—Cooranbong |
| Sunday | 27th October 9.30am Mass—Morisset |
| Tuesday | 29th October 9.30am Liturgy—Morisset |
| Friday | 1st November 10.30am Mass—Morisset |
| Friday | 1st November 7pm Mass—Morisset |
| Saturday | 2nd November 5pm Family Mass—Morisset |
| Sunday | 3rd November 9.30am Mass—Morisset |
| Tuesday | 5th November 9.30am Liturgy—Morisset |
| Friday | 8th November 10.30am Mass—Morisset |

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All Saints/All Souls Day:

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

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

Parishioners will have the opportunity to submit the names of their deceased relatives and on forms provided in the coming weeks.

Melbourne Cup

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

Christmas Mass Ministries.

Christmas is fast approaching! Please review your calendars. Soon we will be seeking help with Christmas Mass Ministries, and general assistance for 'Set up' and 'Pack up'

Cuppa and Chat

This Sunday 20th October, after 9.30am Mass everyone is invited to the Callinan Centre for a 'Cuppa and Chat', All welcome.

Catholic Mission Appeal

The Annual Catholic Mission Appeal will be held this w/end 19/20 October Students of Saint John Vianney School will choose the Kingdom during October to show their priorities are in the right order. This year we are asked to support the Kingdom of God by showing a concern for the poor, particularly in Mongolia.

Envelopes will be on the seats. Please place your contribution in the second collection (RED) bucket.

GOSPEL

Mark 10:35-45

The Son of Man came to give his life as a ransom for all.

James and John, the sons of Zebedee, approached Jesus. 'Master,' they said to him, 'we want you to do us a favour.' He said to them, 'What is it you want me to do for you?' They said to him, 'Allow us to sit one at your right hand and the other at your left in your glory.' 'You do not know what you are asking' Jesus said to them. 'Can you drink the cup that I must drink, or be baptised with the baptism with which I must be baptised?' They replied, 'We can.' Jesus said to them, 'The cup that I must drink you shall drink, and with the baptism with which I must be baptised you shall be baptised, but as for seats at my right hand or my left, these are not mine to grant; they belong to those to whom they have been allotted.'

When the other ten heard this they began to feel indignant with James and John, so Jesus called them to him and said to them: 'You know that among the pagans their so-called rulers lord it over them, and their great men make their authority felt. This is not to happen among you. No; anyone who wants to become great among you must be your servant, and anyone who wants to be first among you must be slave to all. For the Son of Man himself did not come to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.'

TWENTY-EIGHTTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME Year B — Reflection 20th October 2024

Our 1st Reading today, taken from the 4th Servant Song in the Book of Isaiah is based on Prophets like Jeremiah & on the

sufferings of Israel as a Nation. It portrays the servant who gives his life for so many & rather than being a victorious Messiah, he saw in the suffering servant a description of his own mission- but he went further & applied it to the mission of all his followers.

The words of the Psalm acknowledge God's love & care for all people & the response acknowledges our confidence in His promises.

The 2nd Reading reminds us in some detail that Jesus, the Son of God, while living on earth, experienced the same weaknesses as us, yet remained without sin, so we should be very confident in asking for His mercy & grace in our times of need.

The Gospel story expresses the mounting tension that arises as Jesus repeatedly directs the disciples' attention to the future - in particular, His suffering & death, yet despite His efforts they still persist in discussing who will hold the future supremacy of power among them!

So what's new? I'm sure you will agree that this situation may sound a bit familiar to us - most arguments are over "some form of power" or power over the other person, are they not?

But, as on previous occasions, the brothers, James & John, only display total misunderstanding, as their focus is about their ambition to sit on either side of Him in His glory! There follows a discourse about what His own mission entails & the true nature of it, pointing out very clearly that authority was to be manifested as SERVICE not POWER, together with a warning NOT to act as the pagan rulers did!

Jesus, Himself, was the one who came as the Servant of the Lord, who served His people to the extent of giving the ultimate sacrifice- His own life for them. He continued to instruct them, by telling them that "Anyone who wants to be first among you must be slave to all".

This statement, however, was not understood by them & we may also find it a bit confusing. We might expect that a Leader in certain situations or activities would need to undertake some degree of "training" before taking on the said position, but, once again, Jesus describes quite a different style of leadership, explaining that He came NOT to be served but to serve!

Serving does not mean that we passively accept that things continue as they are, rather it implies initiative & creativity, knowledge & efforts to build a just & loving world.

So, clearly what this Gospel REJECTS is any power that is used as domination & the desire to be recognised as "leaders" but it INSISTS on power that is understood as effective solidarity .

Sadly, in our present time, we are seeing so much physical hunger, pain, deprivation & constant violation of human rights enforced by authoritarian Governments intent only on being served.

Let us all place our trust in our loving God by praying the "Prayer for Peace" daily. St Mary MacKillop said in 1874 "God will draw good out of evil"

Listen, O people, in the silent Chapel of your heart; and the Beloved will speak of peace to you, to all who turn their hearts to love;

O, that harmony might dwell among the nations. Psalm 85:8,9.

Heather White

2025 Year C Liturgical Book Orders

If you would to order for the new liturgical year "Break Open the Word" or an "Ordo" or "God's Word 2025" or a copy of "The New Community Bible" please complete an order form at : <https://forms.office.com/r/DbUYaABUEC> or pick up a form at the back of the church or call the parish office.

This week, you're invited to partner with the Church in Mongolia to help deliver essential services to people who need it most. Lack of access and social stigma mean that some of the most vulnerable people are not getting the support they require.

The House of Mercy will provide a haven for many people, including those affected by homelessness and domestic violence. Without your partnership, people in need will go without the assistance they require.

During World Mission Sunday, we are called to "Invite others to the banquet", and we invite you to share the warmth of God's love with our brothers and sisters who need it most in Mongolia. You can support this work by using the appeal envelope, going online at catholicmission.org.au/mongolia, or scanning the QR code. Your gift will also assist many other Church programs around the world.



Freecall: 1800 257 296
catholicmission.org.au/mongolia

SCAN ME



**GO AND INVITE
EVERYONE**
to the banquet

With A Light Heart

My wife accompanied me this morning when I went to the barbers for a haircut. Reading a magazine in the reception area, she found an interesting article and asked if she could take the magazine next door to make a photocopy.

"Leave some ID, a driver's license or a credit card," the hairdresser said. "But my Hubby is here getting a haircut," she explained. "Yes, M'aam", he replied. "But I need something that you'll come back for."

Formation Films at the Diocesan Resource Centre

On Saturday 2 November, everyone is welcome to join us as we watch, *"The Miracle Club"* at the Diocesan Resource Centre for our next Formation Films event. The movie follows the story of three generations of close friends, Lily (Maggie Smith), Eileen (Kathy Bates), and Dolly (Agnes O'Casey) of Ballygar, outside Dublin, who win a pilgrimage to the sacred French town of Lourdes, that place of miracles that draws millions of visitors each year. Register now! <https://forms.office.com/r/1jvjLH5GsB>

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 a Bishop?

The following questions are framed by Fiona Duque Diocesan Pastoral Ministries Officer, around our local understanding of a bishop. Bishops are first ordained, and then if they move to another diocese, they are installed. For example, Bishop Michael Kennedy was 'ordained' as the Bishop of Armidale and then 'installed' in the Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle. He is ultimately responsible for teaching, governing and sanctifying in his diocese. The bishop is Christ's representative and leads his 'people' in communion with the Pope. His office is called an episcopacy.

How does a Bishop get chosen?

The Australian Catholic Bishop's Conference put names forward. Then, due diligence occurs through discernment, consultation, background checks, surveying and questioning – some effort is made to discern the needs of the diocesan community where the vacancy is situated. A list of potential priests (or current bishops) is then situated with the papal nuncio (or ambassador), who is currently an American Archbishop – Charles Balvo, and three names are chosen. He makes an extensive report of the suggestions to the Dicastery (office) for Bishops in the Vatican, but ultimately, the Pope has the final say.

What colour signifies a bishop?

Colour, as we know, is a perfect tool in helping to communicate

and recognise someone's office/role, and to highlight meaning and symbolism. As we saw with the bishop's zucchetto, the amaranth red (I like to use this colour) means that someone can instantly recognise a bishop from that colour. The bishop will also wear other items of that colour such as a cassock (like a coat). If he chooses to wear a black cassock, it will have the amaranth red piping and a sash of the same colour. It is interesting to note that before the 16th Century, the colour was green.

World Mission Sunday

The theme for this year's message for World Mission Sunday, and the Catholic Mission appeal campaign, is 'Go and Invite and Everyone to the Banquet'. In the spirit of that invitation, Catholic Mission and the students and staff of St John Vianney encourage the parish community to support them, with prayers and donations, for the people of Mongolia. By sponsoring students during Socktober, you will be creating stronger connections between the parish and the school, between Mongolia and Australia and between children from this diocese and those being cared for at the Don Bosco Caring Center.

Please visit the Socktober website (www.socktober.org.au) and search for St John Vianney, Morisset, to make your contribution and show your support. The school also invites you to join them during the coming week for Socktober-related activities.

For more information about ways you can contribute to the vital, life-giving work supported by Catholic Mission, click [here](#). For information about leaving a bequest to Catholic Mission, click [here](#)

GambleAware Hunter New England

Next week is GambleAware Week (21-27 October), an initiative aimed at increasing community awareness of the risks of gambling and gambling harm. CatholicCare Social Services Hunter-Manning operates GambleAware Hunter New England within the Catholic Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle. It is a free counselling and gambling-related support service for people who gamble, and their families and friends. For more information, visit www.catholiccare.org.au/services/counselling-and-clinical-services/gambleaware-counselling

Baptism Preparation Program

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

SUPPORTING THE CLERGY / 1st Collection

If you would like to make contributions to support the Clergy / 1st Collection please do so at Mass in the BLUE bucket or electronically using the Online Payments button on the Parish Website Home page, Diocese App, Electronic Funds Transfer Only Bank Account Name: Morisset Parish Presbytery BSB: 066739 No: 100004062 Ref: 1st Collection & SURNAME or contact the parish office to set up a direct debit.

SUPPORTING OUR PARISH / 2nd Collection

If you would like to make contributions to support our Parish please do so at Mass via the RED bucket or our Parish Electronic Funds Transfer Only Account the details are: Account Name: Morisset Parish Church BSB:066739 Account Number: 100004064 please use one of the following Payment References PG + your giver number or PG + SURNAME or SURNAME you can also use the Online Payments or Planned Giving button on the Parish Website Home page or the Diocese App. If you are considering taking up **planned giving** you may like to know that **a percentage of the contributions are tax deductible**. If you would like to know more or set up planned giving please contact the Parish Office.

| 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 | P Melvey H White | D Peterson J Vipan |
| <u>PSALMIST:</u> | 5PM 9.30AM | J Vipan D Whitten | U France J Shamley |
| <u>GIFTS</u> | 5PM 9.30AM | F Pascoe L McRae K Lendon | P Robertson H White L Hutchinson G Hutchinson |
| <u>SERVERS</u> | 5PM 9.30AM | J Lawandos V Paulo | M Melvey M Melvey |
| <u>AV</u> | 5PM 9.30AM | E Lawandos M Foo | J France U France |
| <u>WELCOMERS</u> | 5PM 9.30AM | H White P Melvey | Cameron Family K Lendon |
| <u>CHURCH CLEANING</u> | COOR MOR | XXXX A Walker G Walker | P MacIntyre B Hutcheson D Whitten |

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

Our Parish supports The Diocese in its zero-tolerance approach to abuse. Every one of us must each day commit ourselves individually and collectively to safeguard each child and every vulnerable person to whom we interact with.

Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility.

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

Email: childprotection@mn.catholic.org.au,

or visit their website for further information:

www.officeofsafeguarding.org.au

UPCOMING FEAST DAYS MEMORIALS AND SOLEMINITIES


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

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

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

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

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



Prayer Requests for the Bulletin

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

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

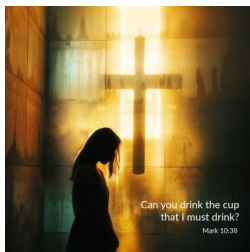
An Act of Spiritual Communion

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



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





SUNDAY PRAYER SERVICE
Twenty-ninth Sunday in Ordinary
Time Year B
Sunday 20 Oct 2024

The Introductory Rites
Acknowledgement of Country

We Acknowledge the Awabakal and Darkinjung nations as the Traditional Custodians who have walked upon and cared for this land our parish encompasses for thousands of years, and honour and pay respect to, Elders past, present and emerging. We acknowledge the continued deep spiritual attachment and relationship of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples to this country and commit ourselves to the ongoing journey of reconciliation.

Gathering

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

Sign of the Cross

Leader:

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

All:

Amen.

Greeting

Leader:

Blessed be Jesus who makes us one,
and strengthens us by the power of his Spirit.

All:

Blessed be God forever.

Introductory Remarks

Leader (in these or similar words):

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

Opening Rite

LITANY OF PRAISE

Leader:

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

A brief period of silence follows.

Leader:

Lord Jesus, you came to serve: Lord, have mercy.

All: Lord, have mercy.

Christ Jesus, you suffered for our sake: Christ, have mercy.

All: Christ, have mercy.

Lord Jesus, you show us mercy and 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 most holy
you are the Lord of all.
We are made in your likeness
and your name is written on our hearts.
Guide us in your ways
and make our faith strong.
We ask this through Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit,
for ever and ever.

All:

Amen.

The Liturgy of the Word

First Reading

Isaiah 53:10-11

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

If he offers his life in atonement, he shall see his heirs, and have long life.

The Lord has been pleased to crush his servant with suffering.
If he offers his life in atonement,
he shall see his heirs, he shall have a long life
and through him what the Lord wishes will be done.
His soul's anguish over
he shall see the light and be content.
By his sufferings shall my servant justify many,
taking their faults on himself.

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

The word of the Lord.

All reply:

Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 32:4-5. 18-20. 22. R. v.22

**(R.) Lord, let your mercy be on us,
as we place our trust in you.**

1. The word of the Lord is faithful
and all his works to be trusted.
The Lord loves justice and right
and fills the earth with his love. **(R.)**
2. The Lord looks on those who revere him,
on those who hope in his love.
to rescue their souls from death,
to keep them alive in famine. **(R.)**
3. Our soul is waiting for the Lord.
The Lord is our help and our shield.
May your love be upon us, O Lord,
as we place all our hope in you. **(R.)**

Second Reading

Hebrews 4:14-16

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews

Let us be confident in approaching the throne of grace.

Since in Jesus, the Son of God, we have the supreme high priest
who has gone through to the highest heaven, we must never let
go of the faith that we have professed. For it is not as if we had a
high priest who was incapable of feeling our weaknesses with us;
but we have one who has been tempted in every way that we
are, though he is without sin. Let us be confident, then, in
approaching the throne of grace, that we shall have mercy from
him and find grace when we are in need of help.

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

The word of the Lord.

All reply:

Thanks be to God.

Gospel

Reader:

From the holy Gospel according to **Mark**

All:

Glory to you, O Lord.

Mark 10:35-45

The Son of Man came to give his life as a ransom for all.

James and John, the sons of Zebedee, approached Jesus. 'Master,' they said to him, 'we want you to do us a favour.' He said to them, 'What is it you want me to do for you?' They said to him, 'Allow us to sit one at your right hand and the other at your left in your glory.' 'You do not know what you are asking' Jesus said to them. 'Can you drink the cup that I must drink, or be baptised with the baptism with which I must be baptised?' They replied, 'We can.' Jesus said to them, 'The cup that I must drink you shall drink, and with the baptism with which I must be baptised you shall be baptised, but as for seats at my right hand or my left, these are not mine to grant; they belong to those to whom they have been allotted.'

When the other ten heard this they began to feel indignant with James and John, so Jesus called them to him and said to them: 'You know that among the pagans their so-called rulers lord it over them, and their great men make their authority felt. This is not to happen among you. No; anyone who wants to become great among you must be your servant, and anyone who wants to be first among you must be slave to all. For the Son of Man himself did not come to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.'

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 do you think the disciples struggled to understand Jesus' mission when they watched it unfold?

Q. What aspects of your life are challenged by Jesus' demand to be a servant, or 'slave', to all?

Q. Where do you see the needs of others being put first?

Q. How is it possible to challenge poor leadership with a model of servant leadership?

Profession of Faith

Leader:

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

All:

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

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

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

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

Prayer of the Faithful

Leader: Dear friends, let us bring our prayers before the Lord,
who is our help and our shield.

Reader: That through the Gospel, the Holy Church will be known
throughout the world for its service and outreach to the
needy.

In your mercy:

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: That world leaders will work for the common good of all
those entrusted to them.

In your mercy:

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: That bishops, priests and religious who have been called
to serve will embrace their ministry with enduring faith.

In your mercy:

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: That students preparing for examinations will be
granted the gifts of wisdom and understanding.

In your mercy:

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: That the sick and all who place their trust in the Lord
will be shown mercy.

In your mercy:

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: That those who have died will share in eternal life with
Christ.

In your mercy:

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader: Loving Father, your Son Jesus Christ came not to be
served, but to serve. Hear our prayers and help us to
become great in your name by serving all in need. We
ask this through Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

Leader:

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

All:

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

The Concluding Rite

Blessing

Leader:

May the Lord be with us and protect us now and for ever.

All make the sign of the cross during the blessing.

All:

Amen.

Dismissal

Leader:

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

All:

Thanks be to God.

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Advent 2024: Awaiting Hope

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

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

NSW Catholic Charismatic Renewal – Thanksgiving End of Year Mass

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

FAITH MATTERS: The Greatest Resource

'THE GREATEST RESOURCE THAT WE CAN TAKE INTO THE WORLD IS OURSELVES!'

Nicki Graham PUBLISHED October 15, 2024

These words were said to me just a short while ago by a young adult who is exploring a variety of ministries of service across the diocese. Whatever the encounter, these young people are given opportunities so that they can grow and learn more about their own faith and what God's purpose might be for them.

The thing is, often it is we (the slightly more aged and experienced!) who can be nourished from the examples which the youth of today are setting. Pope Francis tells us that young people are 'living hope of a church on the move.' In listening to these young people describe their faith journey over the past year, I am reminded that they really are bearing witness to the joy of friendship one can encounter with Christ. I'm also encouraged that our young people, through their life and work, are making their voices heard.

Often, we encourage these young adults to consider where they might have seen God in the past week or month. What is surprising is the level of connectedness each person experiences: "The first time I was involved in ALPHA and the weeks that followed showed me what a strong sense of community can be like. I encountered a different way of experiencing God like I had never had before. The questions scattered throughout the events each week were deep and thought provoking and you really had to come up with something that wasn't a surface level answer."

"It was during a visit to the St John's Villa nursing home where I took a group of Year Five students each Wednesday that I noticed that one of the students was spending some time with Iris, a resident, who is actually one hundred and three years old! Iris said that her secret to a long and happy life was to keep moving and keep the faith. The student, after losing her own grandmother to cancer, was drawn to Iris and she felt quite overwhelmed with happiness that she could spend time with this person who emulated the face of God during those visits."

At times in ministry, we are called into spaces that take us out of our comfort zone. It can be something that anyone, let alone a young person, with a few years of life experience, may find that they are confronted with certain situations that they have never lived or known before. Within our diocese, there are places that offer a safe space for guests to rest, recover and reconnect with others. Part of ministry in these spaces is to learn the importance of being a good listener:

"I've never really had to listen like that before. It's a skill that I didn't really have, to be able to embrace the silence. I am a better listener now than I've ever been, and I can see the incredible benefits of the skills of active listening in a safe, supportive space with people."

So, as these young adults who have had a variety of experiences in the Pastoral Placement Program are looking forward to their next chapter, we wish them every blessing on their faith journey ahead as they discern what ministry they might pursue. We invite them to hear the message from Pope Francis to young people: 'Know that Christ is alive, and He loves you with an infinite love.' For those of us who have travelled a few more years than our participants, perhaps we can listen to the encouraging words of our youth; open ourselves up to every opportunity, hear others, walk with others and know that our God is always walking right beside us. He knows you are His greatest resource.



Stuck for gift ideas this Christmas?

We have the answer.

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

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

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

Bishops congratulate cardinal nominee Mykola Bychok

Bishop Mykola Bychok CSsR has been nominated as one of the new cardinals to be created at the next consistory in Rome on 8 December.

Australian Catholic Bishops Conference PUBLISHED October 11, 2024

Australian Catholic Bishops Conference President and Archbishop of Perth, Timothy Costelloe SDB, congratulated Bishop Mykola on behalf of the Conference.

“It is with great joy that the bishops of Australia congratulate Bishop Mykola Bychok CSsR, on his nomination as one of the new cardinals to be created at the next consistory in Rome on December 8,” Archbishop Costelloe said.

“Since being appointed as the Eparch (bishop) of the Ukrainian Catholic Church in Australia, Bishop Mykola has won the affection and admiration not only of his own people but also of the bishops of Australia.

“He is a valued member of the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference.

“As we congratulate him on this new appointment we are reminded again of the terrible suffering of the people of Ukraine.

“This appointment will bring great joy to Ukrainian Catholics here in Australia and indeed throughout the world.

“We unite with them in praying for an end to the war in their homeland and for the establishment of a just peace.”

Supporting a young person during the HSC: A guide for parents and carers

The Higher School Certificate (HSC) is a significant milestone in a young person’s education, and it can be a stressful time for both students and parents.

While your child is focused on studying and exams, you might be wondering how you can support them without adding any extra pressure.

There are some simple ways you can help them stay organised, manage their stress, and stay healthy during this critical time. Here are a few tips to guide you through it.

1. Help Them Develop a Study Routine

A structured study plan is vital for HSC preparation. Sit down with your child and help them create a realistic study schedule, dividing their time among various subjects. Whether it’s an app or an old-school calendar on the fridge, a young person will benefit from creating a daily schedule and sticking to it.

Encourage regular breaks every hour to avoid burnout and remind them to balance study time with relaxation. This means making time for study, family and work commitments, exercise, friends and some fun too!

Help them set small, achievable goals for each study session, which can make the process feel more manageable. Track key dates, such as exam timetables and support them in staying organised.

2. Create a Positive Environment

The home environment plays a significant role in a young person’s ability to focus and perform during the HSC. Making sure your child has a quiet, organised space to study, free from distractions, will assist them in concentrating. This doesn’t need to be an elaborate setup – just a clean, comfortable space with all the necessary materials they will need for the day.

Be mindful of the emotional atmosphere in your home as well. Stress can be contagious, so try to maintain a calm and positive attitude when you can. Encourage other family members to be considerate of study time too.

3. Be a Source of Emotional Support

The HSC can be emotionally challenging for students. Be available to listen when they need to vent or share their concerns. Try to

keep a level head when they are frustrated and may take this out on you. Acknowledge their feelings without judgment. Let them know it’s okay to feel anxious and that you’re there to support them, no matter the outcome.

4. Know When to Step Back

While it’s essential to be supportive and involved in the process, allowing a young person some independence is equally important. Over-involvement can lead to increased anxiety or a sense that they need to live up to unrealistic expectations. Trust your child to manage their routine and workload and offer guidance only when they ask.

If you encourage them to develop problem-solving skills and self-discipline now, this will serve them well not only during the HSC but also in future challenges.

5. Encourage Healthy Habits

Good physical and mental health is essential to support your child’s memory and performance. Encourage them to get enough sleep daily, eat a healthy, balanced diet and engage in physical activity.

Exercise is a proven stress reliever and helps improve concentration and mood. Also, monitor their screen time during breaks. While some downtime is essential, long hours of mindless scrolling can increase anxiety and negatively impact sleep.

Short walks, stretching, or even just a change of scenery for ten minutes can help reset focus and reduce stress.

6. Reach Out for Extra Help When Needed

If you notice that your child is struggling with what may be over and above everyday HSC stress, such as showing signs of anxiety, depression, or burnout, reach out to support services for professional support and advice. Schools often provide access to counsellors or mental health services, and external resources are also available (see the table below).

7. Remind Them - They are Not Their HSC

Talk with them about how they are feeling about their study and offer reassurance. Avoid adding to their stress by focusing too much on results. Instead, reinforce that effort and persistence are what truly matter. Praise their hard work and remind them that the HSC is just one step in a long journey. Your unconditional support can help alleviate pressure.

Supporting a young person through the HSC requires patience, empathy, and balance. Providing a positive environment, encouraging healthy habits, and being emotionally present can help ease the burden and ensure your child feels supported during this crucial time. Remember, your role is not just about guiding them to academic success but also about helping them feel supported, build resilience, and look after their mental health for the future.

BBI course – Catholics, Faith and Science

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