



**St John
Vianney**
Parish Morisset



TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME YEAR B 01 SEPTEMBER 2024

The readings this Sunday lead us to reflect not just on the rules we live by, but on how we live by the rules and why?

The Pharisees saw evil as something outside themselves, especially in other people. If evil was outside themselves, then they could protect themselves by avoiding contact with people, or where this was not possible, then by ritual washings.

Jesus said that the source of evil is within us. It has its roots in the heart. The heart is the source from which all our thoughts words and deeds flow.

Today there is a great preoccupation with the environment, with the water we drink, the food we eat, and the air we breathe.

Its not that these are unimportant, but, there is also another environment which is important- the moral environment.



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

UPCOMING WORSHIP TIMES :

- | | |
|----------|--|
| Saturday | 31st August 5pm
Family Mass—Morisset |
| Sunday | 1st September 9.30am
Mass—Morisset |
| Tuesday | 3rd September 9.30am
Liturgy—Morisset |
| Friday | 6th September 10.30am
Mass—Morisset |
| Saturday | 7th September 5pm
Mass—Cooranbong |
| Sunday | 8th September 9.30am
Mass—Morisset |
| Tuesday | 10th September 9.30am
Liturgy—Morisset |
| Friday | 13th September 10.30am
Mass—Morisset |
| Saturday | 14th September 5pm
Family Mass—Morisset |
| Sunday | 15th September 9.30am
Mass—Morisset |
| Tuesday | 17th September 9.30am
Liturgy—Morisset |
| Friday | 20th September 10.30am
Mass—Morisset |
| Saturday | 21st September 5pm
Mass—Cooranbong |
| Sunday | 22nd September 9.30am
Mass—Cooranbong |

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The Season of Creation

The creation story from the biblical Book of Genesis describes how God created heaven and earth, plants, animals and people. The Season of Creation is a time to renew our relationship with our Creator and all creation, through celebration, conversion and commitment together. The Season of Creation starts 1 September and ends 4 October with the Feast of Francis of Assisi. You can access Pope Francis's Message for the World Day of Prayer for Creation at: <https://www.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/messages/cura-creato/documents/20240627-messaggio-giornata-curacreato.html>

GOSPEL

Mark 7:1-8. 14-15. 21-23

You forget the commandments of God and hold on to human tradition.

The Pharisees and some of the scribes who had come from Jerusalem gathered round Jesus, and they noticed that some of his disciples were eating with unclean hands, that is, without washing them. For the Pharisees, and the Jews in general, follow the tradition of the elders and never eat without washing their arms as far as the elbow; and on returning from the market place they never eat without first sprinkling themselves. There are also many other observances which have been handed down to them concerning the washing of cups and pots and bronze dishes. So these Pharisees and scribes asked him, 'Why do your disciples not respect the tradition of the elders but eat their food with unclean hands?' He answered, 'It was of you hypocrites that Isaiah so rightly prophesied in this passage of scripture:

This people honours me only with lip-service,
while their hearts are far from me.

The worship they offer me is worthless,
the doctrines they teach are only human regulations.

You put aside the commandment of God to cling to human traditions.'

He called the people to him again and said, 'Listen to me, all of you, and understand. Nothing that goes into a man from outside can make him unclean; it is the things that come out of a man that make him unclean. For it is from within, from men's hearts, that evil intentions emerge: fornication, theft, murder, adultery, avarice, malice, deceit, indecency, envy, slander, pride, folly. All these evil things come from within and make a man unclean.'

TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME Year B — Reflection 1st September 2024

In the Gospel this Sunday, Jesus tells the Pharisees that they have substituted their own laws for the Law of God, and are more concerned about outer cleanness than cleanness of heart.

For those of us who have not studied the ancient Jewish religion, it is hard to understand what is meant by 'unclean' and 'tradition' of the elders. 'Unclean' does not mean 'dirty or soiled'. It means that it is ritually defiled. The 'tradition of the elders' refers to a set of practices, by which Pharisee teachers, meant to help the observant Jew fulfil the law, as perfectly as humanly possible.

Eventually for some, these practices took on the same importance of the law itself, and to neglect them they believed, offended God. For Jesus instead, what matters is the purity of the intentions, what is in one's heart.

In everyday language we acknowledge the importance of the heart. The heart is the symbol of the whole person, the seat of the emotional life. We judge a person by the heart.

Here are a few examples. One of the most damning things we can say about anyone is that 'she has no heart' or he has a 'hard heart'.

We judge the degree of commitment to something in terms of

the heart.

Of one we say, 'his heart is not in it', or 'she is only half hearted'. We describe sorrow and joy in terms of the heart. We say, 'His heart was broken' or 'her heart overflowed with joy'.

The Gospel places great emphasis on the heart and we can see why.

The heart is the source from which all our thoughts, words and deeds flow. If the heart is clean, then all that flows from it will be clean.

Of course, it is important to observe the rules of hygiene but if there is to be an emphasis on purity, surely the most important thing is purity of heart. The Pharisees paid more attention to the outside than the inside.

Only God sees the heart. Who knows the burdens and limitations one person faces in doing their best, or the hidden sins of someone.

At every Mass celebrated, the priest washes his hands and prays for purity of heart, and so should we.

Today the Gospel invites us to undergo an electrocardiogram, the 'heart test', to reveal what we really are before God and before our neighbours. – John France

Confirmation

Bishop Michael Kennedy will confer the Sacrament of Confirmation on our candidates Friday 20th September at 7pm. Please remember the children and their families in your prayers as they prepare for this event.

Father's Day

Father's Day is celebrated on different dates in various countries due to historical and cultural reasons. In Australia, the first Sunday of September is chosen which coincides with the beginning of Spring—a season associated with rebirth and renewal, making it apt for celebrating fathers.

Sonora Smart Dodd of Spokane, Washington, is usually credited for originating Father's Day. She is said fathers had the idea in 1909 while listening to a sermon on Mother's Day. We wish all fathers and father figures a happy day, filled with happiness and joy.

Father's Day Prayer

Lord God, who is Father of all,
send your blessing down on these men who are fathers.

For those who in the night worry for their child,
grant them your comfort.

For those who in the day work and struggle to provide
for their child,

send them your strength.

For those who mourn a child,

hold them in your love.

For those who play, laugh, sing and dance with their child,
you share in their joy.

Lord God, who is Father of all,

walk with these fathers, in the light times and the dark.

Bless them, and may they each be a living symbol of
your fatherly love;

a symbol to their children and all who they encounter.

We make this prayer through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Pope Francis Prayer Intention for September

We pray that each one of us will hear and take to heart the cry of the Earth and of victims of natural disasters and climactic change, and that all will undertake to personally care for the world in which we live.

Hunter Community Alliance

Thank you to everyone who attended the HCA 'listening session' last Monday at the Morisset Uniting Church, with the Federal Member for Hunter, Dan Repacholi.

We had people from the local Anglican, Baptist, Catholic, Uniting, SDA, and Salvation Army Churches, as well as representatives from other organizations such as Vinnies and the CWA, all working for the 'common good'.

Dan was impressed with the sincerity and respect people extended to him, and to each other, at the table conversations. Dan will now take the concerns people have for the Hunter, and particularly the town of Morisset, to Albo and Jim.

Dan indicated that he would be happy to have more conversations with the HCA at any time.

Zoom Discussion: 2024-2025 Social Justice Statement - Truth and Peace: A Gospel Word in a Violent World

In the 2024-2025 Social Justice Statement, Australia's Bishops scrutinise the signs of our own troubled times. Observe the violence around us and ask why it is so. They also ask what is needed if there is to be peace.

Join us for an online Zoom discussion as we break open the document, hear responses from across our Diocese, and participate in small group discussions on how we can be peacemakers in our communities.

When: Wednesday 4 September Where: Zoom

Time: 7pm Register Here: www.eventbrite.com.au/e/truth-and-peace-exploring-the-social-justice-statement-tickets-991438247487

Perpetual Day of Remembrance

September 15, promulgated as a 'Perpetual Day of Remembrance' in our diocese, marks a day of solemn remembrance of the harm caused by a history of child sexual abuse and failure to protect children. It has two aspects: one focused on supporting survivors and the other on the prayer of the whole church. This year Perpetual Day of Remembrance Sunday falls on September 15. As a people of faith, we can pray for a change of heart as the ground of hope for a safer future for all. Special prayer resources are available online at www.mn.catholic.org.au/church-mission/perpetual-day-of-remembrance Every person is invited to use and help disseminate as widely as possible the resource for Individuals and households. May Christ be our Light.

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

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

Season of Creation – Creation Sings

Saturday 21 September 2024, 2-4pm, Sacred Heart Cathedral. All in the Newcastle, Hunter and Manning community are invited to gather to sing in praise and wonder of creation as a celebration of the Season of Creation. In the spirit of community choirs, we will learn a song, pray, and enjoy afternoon tea. Register at <https://forms.office.com/r/xKCr907ew6>

Please bring a cutting of a favourite plant. We will exchange our cuttings during the prayer. Those who love taking photos of nature can join the Season of Creation Photography initiative and send your image/s to rose.mcallister@mn.catholic.org.au by 16/09/24. The images will be displayed at Creation Sings.

With A Light Heart

The O'Brien's had a proud family legacy. After great-great-grandfather Paddy O'Brien had arrived in Australia in the 1860s, the generations that followed had made a good fist of their lives. The family lineage had included business and political figures and more than a handful of priests, nuns, bishops, and even a cardinal back in the day.

Now in their late eighties, Fred and Emma O'Brien decided to compile a family history, a legacy for their children and grandchildren. They hired an author but realised there was an issue. How to deal with the story of great Uncle George, who had been executed for robbery and murder in the electric chair in the 1940s.

The author assured the family he would handle the story with great care and as tactfully as possible.

When the book was printed it read, "Great Uncle George occupied a chair of applied electronics at an important government institution and was firmly attached to his position by the strongest ties. Fondly remembered as a bright spark, his sudden and untimely death at the age of thirty-two came as a great shock

Did You Know?

What is the difference between a permanent deacon and a transitional deacon?

Men who are to be ordained priests are ordained deacons prior to priesthood. These men are sometimes referred to as 'transitional' deacons, because they are in the process of transition into priesthood.

Men who are ordained deacons and remain in that state are sometimes referred to as 'permanent' deacons.

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 10th September 2024**. Bookings can be made online at the link at: <https://forms.office.com/r/wZtatkt01V> or by contacting our Parish Office.

Mistakes with Electronic Bank Transfer Payments for Collections

Thankyou to those who regularly contribute to the parish (planned giving and second collection) and the clergy / first collection via Electronic Bank Transfer.

We have had some deposits for the clergy / first collection received into the Parish account instead of the Clergy / Presbytery account.

We ask that if you are contributing to the clergy / first collection via Electronic Bank Transfer could you please check that you are using the details located on page 4 of this newsletter.

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	U France D Whitten	P Melvey M Shamley
<u>PSALMIST:</u>	5PM 9.30AM	D Joyce R Hay	P Robertson L Hutchinson
<u>GIFTS</u>	5PM 9.30AM	B Cox K Amon J Hutchins	H White B Cox S Matthew D Whitten
<u>SERVERS</u>	5PM 9.30AM	M Melvey F Dyson J Lawandos	M Melvey C Lawandos
<u>AV</u>	5PM 9.30AM	J Vipan M Foo	J Vipan D Peterson
<u>WELCOMERS</u>	5PM 9.30AM	J France K Lendon	J France J France
<u>CHURCH CLEANING</u>	COOR MOR	XXXX B Hutcheson D Whitten	Cameron Family C Lawandos K Lendon

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

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

Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility.

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

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

or visit their website for further information:

www.officeofsafeguarding.org.au

UPCOMING FEAST DAYS MEMORIALS AND SOLEMINITIES

- SAINT GREGORY THE GREAT (M) - 03 SEPT
- EMBER DAY— 6TH SEPT
- SAINT JOHN CHRYSOSTOM (M) - 13TH SEPT
- THE EXALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS (F) - 14TH SEPT
- SAINTS CORNELIUS AND CYPRIAN (M) - 16TH SEPT
- SAINTS ANDREW KIM TAEON, PAUL CHONG HASANG AND COMPANIONS (M) - 20TH SEPT
- SAINT MATTHEW (F) - 21ST SEPT
- SAINT PIUS OF PIETRELCINA (M) - 23RD SEPT
- SAINT VINCENT DE PAUL (M) - 27TH SEPT
- SAINT JEROME (M) - 30TH SEPT

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, 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: Phillip Thompson



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

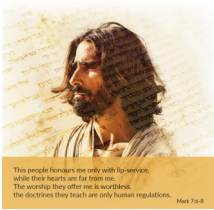
My Jesus,
I believe that You
are present in the Most Holy Sacrament.
I love You above all things,
and I desire to receive You into my soul.
Since I cannot at this moment
receive You sacramentally,
come at least spiritually into my heart.
I embrace You as if You were already there and unite
myself wholly 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 Twenty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time Year B Sunday 01 Sep 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 shown us the way of love and service: Lord, have mercy.

All: Lord, have mercy.

Christ Jesus, you call us to worship you with pure hearts: Christ, have mercy.

All: Christ, have mercy.

Lord Jesus, the just will live in your presence: Lord, have mercy.

All: Lord, have mercy.

Leader:

May almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us our sins, and bring us to everlasting life.

All:

Amen.

Opening Prayer

Leader:

Let us pray.

All pause for silent prayer.

God, our Father

Jesus gave his life for us and showed us the pathway to heaven.

Help us to give all we have

and, in the footsteps of the cross, follow Jesus every day.

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

All:

Amen.

The Liturgy of the Word

First Reading

Deuteronomy 4:1-2. 6-8

A reading from the book of Deuteronomy

You may add nothing to the word which I speak to you – keep the commands of the Lord.

Moses said to the people: 'Now, Israel, take notice of the laws and customs that I teach you today, and observe them, that you may have life and may enter and take possession of the land that the Lord the God of your fathers is giving you. You must add nothing to what I command you, and take nothing from it, but keep the commandments of the Lord your God just as I lay them down for you. Keep them, observe them, and they will demonstrate to the peoples your wisdom and understanding. When they come to know of all these laws they will exclaim, "No other people is as wise and prudent as this great nation." And indeed, what great nation is there that has its gods so near as the Lord our God is to us whenever we call to him? And what great nation is there that has laws and customs to match this whole Law that I put before you today?'

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

The word of the Lord.

All reply:

Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 14:2-5. R. v.1

(R.) The just will live in the presence of the Lord.

1. Lord, who shall dwell on your holy mountain?
He who walks without fault;
he who acts with justice
and speaks the truth from his heart. (R.)
2. He who does no wrong to his brother,
who casts no slur on his neighbour,
who holds the godless in disdain,
but honours those who fear the Lord. (R.)
3. He who keeps his pledge, come what may;
who takes no interest on a loan
and accepts no bribes against the innocent.
Such a man will stand firm for ever. (R.)

Second Reading

James 1:17-18, 21-22, 27

A reading from the letter of St James

Be doers of the word.

It is all that is good, everything that is perfect, which is given us from above; it comes down from the Father of all light; with him there is no such thing as alteration, no shadow of a change. By his own choice he made us his children by the message of the truth so that we should be a sort of first-fruits of all that he had created.

Accept and submit to the word which has been planted in you and can save your souls. But you must do what the word tells you, and not just listen to it and deceive yourselves.

Pure, unspoilt religion, in the eyes of God our Father is this: coming to the help of orphans and widows when they need it, and keeping oneself uncontaminated by the world.

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 **John**

All:

Glory to you, O Lord.

Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

You forget the commandments of God and hold on to human tradition.

The Pharisees and some of the scribes who had come from Jerusalem gathered round Jesus, and they noticed that some of his disciples were eating with unclean hands, that is, without washing them. For the Pharisees, and the Jews in general, follow the tradition of the elders and never eat without washing their arms as far as the elbow; and on returning from the market place they never eat without first sprinkling themselves. There are also many other observances which have been handed down to them concerning the washing of cups and pots and bronze dishes. So these Pharisees and scribes asked him, 'Why do your disciples not respect the tradition of the elders but eat their food with unclean hands?' He answered, 'It was of you hypocrites that Isaiah so rightly prophesied in this passage of scripture:

This people honours me only with lip-service, while their hearts are far from me.

The worship they offer me is worthless, the doctrines they teach are only human regulations.

You put aside the commandment of God to cling to human traditions.'

He called the people to him again and said, 'Listen to me, all of you, and understand. Nothing that goes into a man from outside can make him unclean; it is the things that come out of a man that make him unclean. For it is from within, from men's hearts, that evil intentions emerge: fornication, theft, murder, adultery, avarice, malice, deceit, indecency, envy, slander, pride, folly. All these evil things come from within and make a man unclean.'

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. Do you think Jesus and his disciples deliberately provoked this confrontation?

Q. Is the problem of honouring God 'only with lip-service' still a problem in today's Church?

Q. Does this teaching of Jesus challenge the notion that human beings are intrinsically good?

Q. Although 'evil things come from within' are there external things that 'feed' these vices?

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: Dearest friends, with confident hearts let us turn to the Lord with our needs.

Reader: That our Holy Father Pope Francis will continue to lead the Church by proclaiming your message of truth to all people.
In your mercy:

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: That all members of our Church community will be faithful to God's word through prayer and good deeds.
In your mercy:

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: We pray for our fathers and grandfathers and everyone who fills the role of father in our lives. At this special time, may they know the love and affection of their families.
In your mercy:

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: That all who are struggling with their belief in Christ may remain steadfast in their love and return to God.
In your mercy:

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: We pray for those whose father's presence is greatly missed. May they remember the love that was shared and the learning they received.
In your mercy:

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: That all people persecuted by sinful human hearts may find healing for their pain and hope for their future.
In your mercy:

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: That all the sick and housebound will take heart that God is with them always
In your mercy:

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: That all the just who have gone before us will live forever in the presence of the Lord.
In your mercy:

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader: Holy God, you plant the seed of your Word in our souls. Hear these prayers we make from our inmost hearts as we honour you at this Eucharist. 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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PERPETUAL DAY OF REMEMBRANCE

LITURGY MATTERS: Perpetual Day of Remembrance

Today in Liturgy Matters, Bishop Michael Kennedy writes to the faithful about the Perpetual Day of Remembrance, marked on Sunday 15 September.

Bishop Michael Kennedy PUBLISHED August 27, 2024

My Dear People,

In 2020 my predecessor Bishop Bill Wright decreed that the Sunday on or immediately prior to 15 September each year would be inscribed in the liturgical calendar of the Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle as the 'Perpetual Day of Remembrance'. Those familiar with the Church's liturgical calendar would recognise that 15 September is also the day for "Our Lady of Sorrows". How could any of us fail to see and understand that the abuse of children by those placed in positions of leadership and trust in the Church is one of, if not the greatest, cause of sorrow in our Church's long history. Even the mere recognition that such abominations have occurred in our Church causes us great pain and sorrow. How much greater is the pain of those who have been abused and still suffer because of that abuse, and how much greater than our own sorrow must be the sorrow of Our Lord Jesus and his mother Mary.

"To remember" can be a deeply spiritual and religious action. In the Old Testament, God's chosen people were often exhorted to remember the many good things that God had done for them as well as remembering their own sins and transgressions. Remembering God's goodness, both to ourselves as individuals and collectively as his people, produces gratitude and hope. Remembering our transgressions, both our own personal transgressions and the transgressions of the collective Church, produces redemptive sorrow and genuine conversion.

To assist us as the Church of Maitland-Newcastle to pray in this space the Perpetual Day of Remembrance Standing Committee of the Diocesan Liturgy Council once again offers a range of resources for use in our parishes, schools, agencies, groups, and homes. It has been determined that the resources this year include only minor changes from last year since later this year my office will undertake a review into the best way for us as a community to observe the Perpetual Day of Remembrance.

The resources for 2024 are available on the diocesan website for parishes and schools who wish to begin their preparation. There is something there for everyone including Diocesan agencies, individuals, households and community groups. [Resources - Perpetual Day of Remembrance](#)

I commend these resources to you and your local community for our remembering and praying.

Yours in Christ,
Bishop Michael Kennedy

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Explore other faiths during special event

A faithful take on the classic pub crawl is set to educate, inspire, and connect others next month.

Elizabeth Symington PUBLISHED August 27, 2024

For the third year, the Catholic Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle will run a Church/Faith Crawl.

The event will visit several religious institutions and encourage ecumenical connections and conversations.

The planned locations include Rutherford Mosque, The Grainery Church, a Uniting Church, and the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

"You don't want to miss out on this enriching experience," Project Officer and Event Organiser Alyson Segrott said.

"It'll be a great opportunity to connect with like-minded people and learn about other faiths."

In 2022, the event visited the Anglican, Catholic, Lutheran, and Russian Orthodox churches in Newcastle.

"The positive feedback inspired an expansion, and in 2023, the event evolved into the Church/Faith Crawl, including visits to interfaith worship places such as a mosque and various Christian denominations," Alyson said.

Everyone is welcome to attend. The event will happen on Wednesday 11 September from 9.30am to 3.45pm.

Places are strictly limited. Register today to secure your spot! [Click here](#).

Hear from previous participants in the video located at <https://youtu.be/I56nSfD1Bq4>

Call for Special Religious Education teachers

The Teachers of Special Religious Education in our Diocese undertake a vital evangelising role, educating children and young people, forming them in the Catholic faith.

Fortunately, there are amazing, generous people who play an important role in contributing to the formation of children.

Unfortunately, there are not enough teachers to meet the demands of all the classes needed. Many children are missing out.

If you would like to learn more about this ministry, we invite you to attend an Encouragement Day in Newcastle on Monday 16th September.

For information or registration contact Nicki Graham on 0417 773 444 or register by email: admin@huntersre.com.au

Christian Initiation Formation Day

'[Tilling the Soil of Christian Initiation](#)' is a Formation Day for all parishioners, particularly those who are involved in the Ministry of Christian Initiation with Adults, Children of a Catechetical Age, and Children and their Families via the Sacraments of Initiation.

Please gather with friends and colleagues from other parishes on [Saturday 14 September, Toohey Room @ Cathedral House Hamilton, 9.30am to 3.30pm](#).

This is an opportunity to immerse ourselves in the foundations of this important ministry, to share our wisdom and questions and to get to know other ministers. Morning tea and lunch provided. Details and registration via the QR Code.

For enquiries or registration assistance contact sharon.murphy@mn.catholic.org.au P 4979 1134.



Win a \$500 Prize for your Parish

[Decorate your space: National Child Protection Week 2024](#)

You are invited to decorate a space in a way that reflects your parish commitment to child safety and wellbeing, in line with the theme of National Child Protection Week 'Every Conversation Matters.'

You may choose to decorate a fence, wall, door, desk or floor- the only limit is your imagination!

Please see the information at <https://officeofsafeguarding.org.au/national-child-protection-week/> or more details about the 'Decorate your space' initiative, with instructions about how to participate. **Deadline:** 5pm Friday 6 September 2024

Art and Spirituality Workshop

Creation of art provides an opportunity for a deepening awareness of oneself and the world, and can act as a catalyst for evoking the Spirit. Art is a means to see-to-re-search and find the living meaning of what it means to open the heart. Everyone has the ability to create art, but in order for it to be theological, the artist needs to explore ways that it makes sense of faith. Opening the heart through art involves making meaning through the creation, then reflecting on the art itself and the unfolding the moment-to-moment direct experience of the process.

This workshop will provide an opportunity to awaken the Spirit through the beauty of God's creation, prayer, and reflection. Participants will engage in art making experiences which will nourish their faith.

Date: Friday 13 September (9am-3pm)

Venue: Kilaben Bay Community Centre

Cost: \$25 per person

Register at: <https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/art-and-spirituality-workshops-2024-tickets-808605269127>

Hunter Men's Rosary Crusade

The pilgrimage travels to four Churches over 6.5kms. The starting point is at Sacred Heart Cathedral, 841 Hunter St Newcastle West at 11.00am on 14th September. Pilgrims will walk to the Immaculate Heart of Mary (Islington), St Mary's Star of the Sea (Newcastle) St Joseph's (Merewether) returning to the Sacred Heart Cathedral at approximately 1.00pm.

Register before 7 September at: <https://forms.office.com/r/q5fkj1HdgW>

LGBTIQ+ Liturgy

The LGBTIQ+ forum invites you to celebrate a Diocesan liturgy with LGBTIQ+ people, their families, friends and supporters at Immaculate Heart of Mary Church.

Date: Friday 18 October **Where:** 16 Tighes Terrace, Tighes Hill

Time: 6pm **Contact:** LGBTIQ@mn.catholic.org.au



TO HOPE AND ACT WITH CREATION

SEASON OF CREATION 2024

The firstfruits of hope
(Rom 8:19-25)

Only when we work together with Creation can the *firstfruits of hope* be born.