



# Bridgeside Bulletin



*The weekly Bulletin of the Catholic Parish of Forster Tuncurry*

Holy Name of Jesus Church  
33 Lake Street, Forster 2428 NSW

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*We acknowledge the Worimi people - the traditional custodians of this place*

Sunday 8 March 2020

Second Sunday of Lent– Year A

Dear Parish Family,

I was recently involved in an incident at the St Vincent de Paul store that I now know to be a source of gossip within the wider community. Gossip can be dangerous. Of course we take the side of our companions or friends, it is only natural – it's not always right though. Sometimes we have to think 'is what I am hearing likely to be true?'

I have heard as part of gossip that I threatened to close the St Vincent de Paul society in the parish: I want to say categorically that this is untrue – actually I want to say it is a lie. Thinking logically of course is it likely that I would have said it? I have worked really closely with the Society to increase its membership and outreach capability over not only my time here but the 27 years of my priestly life. I have no interest in closing something that is working and is absolutely needed here in the Parish. In a previous ministry I sat on the board of the St Vincent de Paul food vans in Hobart and spent a night a month out on the vans distributing food and blankets to the homeless: I know intimately their good works.

Through **no one's fault but with a number of misunderstandings**, I say again **no one's fault** but with a number of misunderstandings, a member of our parish community who happens to be in a wheel chair was turned away from the St Vincent de Paul store where she had gone to offer her services as a volunteer.

In the subsequent conversation I also learnt that the St Vincent de Paul *store* believed it is no longer a work of the Catholic Church: again through a break down in the system and a number of misunderstandings by those involved. It **wasn't any one person's fault** but something that was being perpetuated incorrectly by a fault in the system.

The religious background of those involved and of those they help has nothing to do with the mission or ministry of the St Vincent de Paul society or its membership within the Church: everyone is welcome there.

However as the Parish Priest none of those elements is acceptable to me and I couldn't in good conscience let them go unaddressed. **Through proper process**, a thing gossip tends not to do, **these matters have been resolved to the satisfaction of those involved**. Our lady in the wheel chair is being assisted to be a volunteer, and the Society is reviewing, updating and changing some of its processes and inductions. My prayer in writing is that the real gossipy bit stops being talked about so that we can all get on with doing what we do best and that as a community we can work together to meet the needs of those who are struggling, lost or in need of a hand up.

The Regional Manager for the Vinnies stores wrote this week to let me know that the store here in Forster will be carrying some of our Catholic items, the Catholic *stuff*, such as miraculous medals, holy pictures and Sacramental cards. If you feel there are items that could be carried there please let me know and I will pass on your suggestions through the proper channels to those who need to know.

I am really keen that all our agencies: Catholiccare, Holy Name Primary School, St Vincent de Paul and the Parish in which they exist work together to assist in what every way we can those in need, those who need to hear God's word, and to guide all to the Kingdom. With that in mind Brooke Stephens, principal of Holy Name Catholic Primary School, hosted a gathering of these agencies to explore ways we can build stronger links to work together. St Vincent de Paul was unable to make the first one but I am hopeful that a more suitable time can be found so that they can be involved.

The first gathering was successful with a number of outcomes that we will all explore more together: one item is that we are revisiting with the help of Catholiccare and our Primary school a community kitchen one day a week here in the hall. It is exciting to be part of this initiative.

Keep all our works in your prayers this week.

*Greg*  
Parish Priest

**THIS WEEK'S SCRIPTURE ZONE**

**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.

**Gospel Acclamation**

Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ! From the shining cloud the Father's voice is heard: this is my beloved Son, hear him.

Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

**Memorial Acclamation**

We proclaim your Death, Oh Lord, and profess your Resurrection until you come again.



**PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS:**

**Recently Deceased:** Roy Ida, Julie Prowse

**Anniversary:** Flora Stevens, Nathan,

*We remember and pray for those who are ill at home and in hospital at this time, may they know the healing presence of Christ:*

Roseanne Telfer, Michael O'Hara, Marion Prescott, Roger Curry, Dulcie Goldsmith, Barry Bolton, Elizabeth Thomas, Ray Vidler, Rachal, Robert Greig, John McCaig, Kerry Pickering, Lawson Rankin, Josephine Camilleri, Zac Gogerly, Ethal Hunt, Junior Soliano, Ann Moreira, Dawn Gander, Judy Shand, Lidwine Wijtenburg, Win Preston, Ken Vote, Anna Lee, Robyn Thomas

*Please ring the parish office if you wish to add your loved ones to the sick list and also to be taken off the list once they are well. Thank you.*

**LITURGY ROSTER W/E 14/15**

**MAR**

**Vigil Mass**

**Sacristan:** Gene Garth

**Readers:** Maureen Stevens, Brooke Stephens & Lou Hope

**Ministers of Communion:** Michael Amato

**Due to recent changes in the receiving of Holy Communion I have selected one person at random to be rostered on to distribute Holy Communion.**

**7am Mass**

**Sacristan:** Cecile Malone

**Readers:** Fred Liackman, Lorraine Clark & Maria Armitage

**Ministers of Communion:** Mary Greig

**9am Mass**

**Sacristan:** Desiree Bennett

**Readers:** Greg Byrne, Monique Johnson & Lois McPherson

**Ministers of Communion:** Josie Beech

**5.30pm Mass**

**Sacristan:** Gene Garth

**Readers:** Gen Williamson & Simy Joseph

**Ministers of Communion:** Shanty Thomas

**READINGS FOR NEXT WEEK  
14/15 MAR**

**First Reading**

Ex 17:3-7

The Israelites complain to Moses in the desert.

**Responsorial Psalm**

Ps 94:1-2. 6-9. R. v.8

(R.) If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts.

**Second Reading**

Rom 5:1-2. 5-8

Christ laid down his life for us.

**Gospel Acclamation**

Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ! Lord, you are truly the Saviour of the world; give me living water, that I may never thirst again. Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!

**Gospel**

Jn 4:5-42

Jesus meets the Samaritan woman at the well.



**Weekday Masses  
Mar 9 - Mar 14**  
**Tuesday:** 4.30pm  
**Wednesday:** 9.00am  
**Friday:** 9.30am  
**Saturday:** 9.00am

Parish Timetable	
Mon 9 Mar	8am Counters- Team 1
Tues 10 Mar	9.30am Christian Meditation-Church 3pm Grace Lenten Group (see lenten program sheet) 3.30pm Holy Hour 5.30pm Singing Practice
Wed 11 Mar	11am Novena to Our Lady of Perpetual Help
Thu 12 Mar	2pm <i>Gaudete et Exsultate</i> Lenten Group in meeting room
Sat 14 Mar	8.30am & 4.45pm Reconciliation

**\*The Parish Office will be closed  
Tuesday 10 March**

*Easter Service Times*

<b>Holy Thursday</b> 9 April	7.00pm
<b>Good Friday</b> <i>Stations of the Cross</i> 10 April	10.00am
<b>Good Friday</b> <i>The Passion of the Lord</i> 10 April	3.00pm
<b>Holy Saturday</b> 11 April	6.30pm
<b>Easter Sunday Mass</b> 12 April	8.00am 10.00am

**If you would like to participate in the Easter Triduum could you please write your name on the lists placed on the Church doors.**

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## WHAT'S HAPPENING IN THE PARISH AND SURROUNDS

**Parish Pastoral Council:** I welcome to the Council 2 new members joining the first 8 in Lucy Reyes and Claudette Cheetham. Both ladies bring a wealth of faith experience and are a wonderful addition to the team. Stay tuned as together we journey along.

**Morning Tea:** there will be a morning tea hosted by our Parish Pastoral Council on the 5th April after the 9.00am. Mass you are all invited to attend.

**Video Night:** Wednesday 11 March 2020 6.30pm we will air two episodes of 'AD: kingdom and Empire' depicting the early life of the Apostles from Jesus death. Bring your comfortable chair a cushion and some nibblies. We will have a short intermission between the episodes. Each episode goes for about 40 minutes. Thanks to all those who came to the 'Two Popes' whilst the sound quality got a bit distorted it was still enjoyable.

### **PROJECT COMPASSION** GO FURTHER TOGETHER

Twenty-seven-year-old Phany was a struggling farmer and was forced to leave her daughter to take up construction work in the city. Her life has been transformed since joining a Caritas supported program, learning crop growing skills and better water management, to combat drought.

**Please donate to Project Compassion 2020 and help mothers like Phany continue to uplift their communities, and provide food for their families.**

Let's Go Further, Together. You can donate through Parish boxes and envelopes, by visiting [www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion](http://www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion) or phoning 1800 024 413.

### **Great Lakes Education Christian Care Association**

*Invites you to a premiere of the film  
'I Still Believe'*

**Sunday 22 March 2020 at 2.00pm**

@ Great lakes Cinema 3 Tuncurry  
Tickets \$20 (includes afternoon tea)

\*Tickets can be purchased from the parish office

All proceeds will support the Great Lakes College Chaplaincy Program

### **Please help support our Community Care Pantry**

CatholicCare is experiencing an increased number of people presenting at our Pulteney St office who are in need of food. We would like to respond to this need but we need your help to do so.

Preferably, we would be looking for items that do not require much preparation, as many of the people asking for our assistance do not have cooking facilities. We are hoping to provide them with nutritious, filling and basic food items such as:

- Cereal; long life milk
- Tins of casseroles
- Baked beans; spaghetti
- Small tins of tuna; spam
- Crackers; Jatz; rice cakes
- Two minute noodles; soups – tins or sachets
- Tins of corn; four bean mix; peas; tomatoes
- Tea bags; small jars coffee; sugar
- Cans of stewed fruit

**If you would like to help us assist people in need, please leave food donations in the bins at the side of the church. Thank you for your kind consideration.**



### **Anointing Mass**

Baptist Care residents will be joining us for Mass on the **26 March at 10.15am**. Please bring members of the community who are sick or house-bound for the Anointing Mass. Tea and coffee will be provided.

### **Activ8 Youth**

Activ8 Youth – Concert with Fr Rob Galea will be held 31 March at 6.30pm – 8pm at All Saints College, St Mary's Campus, 16 Grant St Maitland. Tickets \$13. For tickets go to Eventbrite.com and type 'Activ8 Youth – Concert with Fr Rob Galea'. For more information about Fr Rob see [www.frgministry.com/](http://www.frgministry.com/).

### **Keeping the Faith**

All women are welcome– please extend an invitation to your friends. Come along, share your story and listen to the stories of other women. You may be surprised!

### **Guest speaker Brooke Stephens**

**DATE:** Saturday 28 March 2020

**TIME:** 9.30/10am - 3.00pm

**COST:** \$10.00

**VENUE:** Parish Hall, Lake Street, Forster.

**RSVP:** Essential by 20 March 2020 to [tracey.edstein@bigpond.com](mailto:tracey.edstein@bigpond.com) or 0421 876 221 *Morning tea and lunch will be provided.*

### **WHAT'S HAPPENING IN THE DIOCESE**

#### **Registrations close 30 March for the upcoming**

#### **Christian Formation Course (CFC).**

The CFC will be offered at two locations:

**CatholicCare Mayfield** Tues 6pm-9pm (commencing 28 April)

**Corcoran Centre Morpeth** Wed 9.30am– 12.30pm (commencing 29 April)

**Enrolment forms can be found on a table at the side of the church.**



### **BAPTISMS**

Celebrated most Sundays.  
Bookings via the Parish website

### **MARRIAGE**

Celebrated by arrangement with at least 3 months notice. Bookings via the parish website

### **SACRAMENTAL PROCESS**

Enrolment via the Parish Website

### **RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS**

(RCIA) Parish Office 6554 6304

### **CATHOLIC CARE**

Phone: 6539 5900 for services provided in Forster

## **PARISH GROUPS**

### **Christian Meditation**

Forster Tues 9.30am  
Monica 6555 7038  
Hallidays Point Wed 10am  
John 0417 249 466

### **Social Justice Group**

Last Wed 5.30pm Meeting Room  
Tim Prescott 6555 8517

### **Maintenance and Gardening Group**

3rd Thursday of the month, 8am  
Church grounds. Howard 6557 6826

### **Family and Friends Group**

Meets monthly, contact Carol and Terry Pearson on 0408768729.

### **Singing Practice**

Ken Heffernan 6554 6304  
(see parish timetable)

### **Holy Hour**

Tues 3.30pm in the Church

### **Finance Council**

3rd Wednesday of the month, 5pm  
Meeting Room

### **Pastoral Council**

2nd Wednesday of the month,  
5.30pm Meeting Room

### **Novena to our Lady of Perpetual Help and Rosary**

Wed 11.00am in the Church  
Shiony 0411 493 086

### **Secular Franciscan**

#### **Fraternity**

4th Sunday of the month after the  
9.00am Mass

### **menALIVE Group**

4th Wed after 9am Mass in the  
meeting room. Michael Amato 6554 5284



### **SUNDAY MASS TIMES**

Sat. 6.00pm  
Sun. 7.00am, 9.00am & 5.30pm

### **RECONCILIATION**

Saturday 8.30am & 4.45pm

### **YOUTH MASS**

3rd Sunday of the month at 5.30pm.

### **AGED CARE MASSES**

(Subject to change)

Glaica House:

**2nd Thurs 10.30am**

Estia Forster: **3rd Tues**

**10.30am**

### **PARISH TEAM**

**Fr Greg Barker** - Parish Priest

[gregory.barker@mn.catholic.org.au](mailto:gregory.barker@mn.catholic.org.au)

Emergency Contact 0417 321 209

**Danielle Kingdom**

Admin Assistant

[danielle.kingdom@mn.catholic.org.au](mailto:danielle.kingdom@mn.catholic.org.au)

### **Office Hours:**

Mon-Thurs 9.00am- 3.00pm

Fri- 9.00am- 5.30pm

Phone: 6554 6401

### **Website:**

[www.forstertuncurrycatholic.org.au](http://www.forstertuncurrycatholic.org.au)



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### **CATHOLIC SCHOOLS**

#### **Holy Name Catholic School K-6**

41 Lake Street, Forster

Ph: 6554 6504

E: [admin@forster.catholic.edu.au](mailto:admin@forster.catholic.edu.au)

W: [www.forster.catholic.edu.au](http://www.forster.catholic.edu.au)

**Principal:** Brooke Stephens

#### **St Clare's High School 7-12**

Davis Street, Taree

P: 6552 3300

E: [Admin@tareesc.catholic.edu.au](mailto:Admin@tareesc.catholic.edu.au)

W: [www.tareesc.catholic.edu.au](http://www.tareesc.catholic.edu.au)

**Principal:** Peter Nicholls

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