



Bridgeside Bulletin



The weekly Bulletin of the Catholic Parish of Forster Tuncurry

"Unity in Christ"

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 24 May 2020,

THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD - Year A

Dear Parish Family,

This week marks the annual National Volunteers Week, a week to remember and celebrate the many tens of thousands who give of their time without fee for the benefit of others. Sunday particularly as we celebrate the **Feast of the Ascension** many around our Community will also be urged to acknowledge the many volunteers, often unsung and who turn up day after day to support and encourage others and who keep many clubs, organisations and institutions rocking along.



On Sunday you will be urged to post a photo on Social media to say thanks for those who are volunteers. The simple on line wave to say thanks is becoming the modern, in lock down method of standing in solidarity with others. I would encourage you to join in the campaign if you can. I would hope that you could send a copy of your selfie or photo in so that our volunteers know how much they are appreciated.

Many of you will rank among those volunteers we will be saying thanks too. You know who you are of course but to let others know we have people who volunteer as members of our Parish Pastoral Council, Parish Finance Committee, Our Gardening Team, Our Sacristans, who Coordinate and participate in The Family Group, Friendship Group, the Meditation Groups and Novena on Wednesday, our Readers and Extra-ordinary Ministers of Communion both on the Altar and who take communion to the Sick, our Altar Servers, those who rally to bring food and cater for our events, those who have been part of our fundraising, there are those who minister as members of the Funeral Ministry Team, Baptism Team and are on the RCIA, there are those who coordinate and are part of the Sacrament Team preparing our young people for their Sacraments, we have those who participate in our Music Ministry on Sunday and at our other Liturgies and Events, there is Carolyn who sends out our cards and letters to those who have been baptized, Maureen and Chris who are working hard to update our registers and all those who visit across the parish.

We are not able to be who we are without you being who you are, and of course the generous way you share all of your gifts with us.

So to all of **YOU**, **THANK YOU** from all of **US!**

Thank
you!
Volunteers

Best wishes,

Greg
Parish Priest



PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS:

Recently Deceased:

Anniversary: Marie Lyons, Terry O'Neill

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, Junior Soliano, Ann Moreira, Dawn Gander, Judy Shand, Win Preston, Ken Vote, Anna Lee, Robyn Thomas, Alan Winston, Adam Knixon, Angela McNamara, Lucilla Bacalla, Terry Mason, Betty Clarke, Howard Pryde

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.

Worship & Prayer Suggestions

Sunday Worship: Can I suggest the following times that you might stop and pray the liturgies of Sunday;

7.00am, 8.00am, 9.00am, 10.00am or 11.00am. Just choose one. Could you email us the time you would choose and I will let others in that time slot know your first name so we have a sense of gathering together in prayer. With the news letter you will receive Sunday's readings and the Prayers of Intercession.

Daily Prayer one or more of the following options:

Rosary: Can I suggest a rosary chain each day at the following times: 9.00am, 1.00pm, or 5.00pm.

If you would like to join this chain can you let me know and I will connect by first name to those also choosing that time.

Sunday in Easter: The Sorrowful Mysteries In Easter and Time After Pentecost: The Glorious Mysteries

Monday: The Joyful Mysteries

Tuesday: The Sorrowful Mysteries

Wednesday: The Glorious Mysteries

Thursday: The Luminous Mysteries

Friday: The Sorrowful Mysteries

Saturday: The Glorious Mysteries

Angelus: Can I suggest that we pause at 6.00am if you are up, at Noon and 6.00 pm to say the Angelus. Prayer included.

Angelus Prayer

V. The Angel of the Lord declared unto Mary,
R. And she conceived of the Holy Spirit.

Hail Mary, etc...

V. Behold the handmaid of the Lord.
R. Be it done unto me according to Your Word.

Hail Mary, etc...

V. And the Word was made flesh,
R. And dwelt among us.

Hail Mary, etc...

V. Pray for us, O holy Mother of God.
R. That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.

Let us pray:

Pour forth, we beseech You, O Lord, Your Grace into our hearts; that as we have known the incarnation of Christ, your Son by the message of an angel, so by His passion and cross we may be brought to the glory of His Resurrection.

Through the same Christ, our Lord.
Amen.



JOIN US IN PRAYER

Sunday Worship

7am	Mary, Marie
8am	Mass Live Stream
9am	Monique, Carmel, Gene, Danira
10am	Ruth

Daily Rosary

1pm	Monique
5pm	Mary, Danira

O Mary, you always shine on our path as a sign of salvation and of hope. We entrust ourselves to you, Health of the Sick, who at the cross took part in Jesus' pain, keeping your faith firm. You, Salvation of the Roman People, know what we need, and we are sure you will provide so that, as in Cana of Galilee, we may return to joy and to feasting after this time of trial.

Help us, Mother of Divine Love, to conform to the will of the Father and to do as we are told by Jesus, who has taken upon himself our sufferings and carried our sorrows to lead us, through the cross, to the joy of the resurrection. Amen.

Under your protection, we seek refuge, Holy Mother of God. Do not disdain the entreaties of we who are in trial, but deliver us from every danger, O glorious and blessed Virgin. *By Pope Francis*

Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle – Keeping in Touch

We thought you might be interested in these links to different areas of the Diocesan website. There may be items and articles of interest to you, or you might find a new way of keeping up-to-date with what is happening or keeping in touch.

- ▶ www.mn.catholic.org.au/places/live-stream/
- ▶ <https://www.mn.catholic.org.au/church-mission/catholic-life/liturgy/>
- ▶ <https://www.mn.catholic.org.au/church-mission/catholic-life/spirituality/>
- ▶ <http://mnnews.today/>
- ▶ <https://www.mn.catholic.org.au/news-events/dio-update-enewsletter/>

A Prayer to Combat the Coronavirus Pandemic

Most merciful and Triune God,
We come to you in our weakness.
We come to you in our fear.
We come to you with trust.

For you alone are our hope.
We place before you the disease present in our world.
We turn to you in our time of need.

Bring wisdom to doctors.
Give understanding to scientists.
Endow caregivers with compassion and generosity.

Bring healing to those who are ill.
Protect those who are most at risk.
Give comfort to those who have lost a loved one.

Welcome those who have died into your eternal home.
Stabilize our communities.
Unite us in our compassion.
Remove all fear from our hearts.
Fill us with confidence in your care.

Jesus, I trust in you.
Jesus, I trust in you.
Jesus, I trust in you.

Amen.

Acknowledging the Maronite Youth website.

TAX RECEIPT FOR END OF FINANCIAL YEAR

If you would like to receive a tax receipt for your planned giving donations for the 2019/2020 financial year please call the parish office or send an email to

Forster-
tuncurry.parish@mn.catholic.org.au
The cut off date to request a tax receipt is 30 June 2020.

Clothes for Babies of Kibera

If you are handy with a knitting needle and looking for something to do while at home you might be interested in knitting jackets and beanies for the new babies born in the Maternity Unit of the Rueben Centre in Kenya. The Rueben Centre provides a safe environment for mums from the Kibera slum to come and within the sanctity of the centre give birth. The mothers often need clothing to take their newborns home in. Knitting patterns are available from the parish office for those interested and can be emailed straight to your inbox by contacting forster-tuncurry.parish@mn.catholic.org.au. We are also happy to take donations of wool for the knitters. Clothes can be dropped off at the parish office for postage once completed.

The Swag

With the suspension of Sunday Masses around the country, we will not be sending print bulk order of the Winter edition of The Swag.

We will however be offering parishioners **free online access** to a Page Turner and a PDF of the Winter 2020 edition.

Go to www.theswag.org.au and on the home page click on the yellow box.

The May edition of Aurora is now available online: https://issuu.com/diomn/docs/aurora_may_2020

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity

This year's Week of Prayer for Christian Unity will be from 24 -31 May. The theme "They showed us unusual kindness" (Act 28:2), remembers the historic shipwreck of Paul on the island of Malta and calls us, just like the people on the Island of Malta to a greater generosity to those in need.

The Week for Christian Unity is usually celebrated together. The theme calls us to move from shared prayer to shared action. Due to COVID-19, we are not able to join together, so we need to be creative and adapt the current situation.

We welcome you to download the World Day of Prayer for Christian Unity 2020 Reflection for 8 Days:

<https://www.ncca.org.au/faith-and-unity-resources>.

Take some time each day to read the reflection, discern or meditate on the words, then journal your responses to the questions in the reflection, finish your session with the prayer provided or your own. During the week reflect on what your action could be to show greater generosity to those in need.

From the Diocese Ecumenical and Interfaith Council.



The Holy Name Church will be open Monday to Friday from 9am—3pm for private prayer. A maximum of 10 people are allowed to be inside at a time and social distancing must be practiced. If there are already 10 people inside you must wait outside until a space becomes available. Hand sanitizer is provided and anyone entering the church must record their details on the sheet provided.



Calling for volunteers!

DURING COVID-19

IN RESPONSE TO THE GROWING NEED TO PROVIDE SUPPORT TO THE VULNERABLE AND DISADVANTAGED IN THE LOCAL COMMUNITY, CATHOLICCARE, TOGETHER WITH THE CATHOLIC PARISH OF FORSTER TUNCURRY, ARE LAUNCHING THE

Foster Tuncurry Community Kitchen.

This service will provide assistance to vulnerable members of the Great Lakes community regardless of their age, gender, physical and intellectual capacity, religion or ethnicity.

Located in the parish hall at 33 Lake St Forster, our service will operate each **Wednesday and Thursday, serving meals between 12:00 and 1:00pm.** However, the Kitchen will offer far more than just a free meal. With the assistance of volunteers, CatholicCare and Forster Tuncurry Parish will create a space where people can feel safe and enjoy the company of others. It will provide a means of social inclusion for its diners. The Kitchen will be a potential outreach opportunity for disadvantaged people to access other services via information and referral.

We are non-government funded and rely primarily on the generosity of the Forster Tuncurry community, volunteers and donors to sustain this valuable service.

Who are the people we support?

The Forster Tuncurry Community Kitchen will care primarily for people who are faced with the following circumstances: Financial hardship; homelessness; mental illness; physical or intellectual disability; and/or social isolation.

How can you help support this valuable service to the community!

If you are looking for ways to support your local community during this pandemic, and you do not identify as being in any of the 'at risk' categories for COVID-19 that have been flagged by health authorities, then we need your help! There are many ways you can get involved, including the collection of food donations from local businesses, assisting with the preparation of the daily meal, making up fruit & veggie packs for our diners, cleaning, serving meals and greeting the people we support with a smile!

You can also contribute to our 'Meat Chest'

Cash donations towards our meat chest will allow us to purchase meat and other dairy products needed to complete our daily menus.

Why should you support our service?

This new service will belong to the Forster Tuncurry Community. It will be your Community Kitchen. It will exist in your town to provide support for vulnerable people you pass by in the street everyday. We need your help to sustain our operations to make a real difference to the lives of the people we support.

All interested parties will be invited to attend information sessions which will be scheduled over the coming weeks.

Volunteers will need to complete a National Criminal History Check, and hold a current Working with Children Check.

If you are interested in volunteering contact the Coordinator on **6539 5900** or email at **sabdoo@catholiccare.org.au**

Entrustment of Australia to Our Lady, Help of Christians

At the recent gathering of the Australian Catholic Bishops' Conference, Australia's bishops have decided to entrust our nation to the care of Mary Help of Christians on her feast day. Mary, Help of Christians has been the official patroness of Australia since 1844. Her feast day is celebrated on May 24, which this year coincides with the Feast of the Ascension. The entrustment of Australia to Mary Help of Christians can therefore take place on 24 or 25 May.



O Immaculate Mary, Help of Christians, Queen of heaven and earth, and tender Mother of humanity, at this time when a pandemic threatens all your children, we entrust to you our nation, Australia, and all who live in this country.

We commit to your intercession all the members of our community, beginning with the weakest ones, from the unborn to the sick, the disabled and the elderly.

We commit to you our families, our young and old, and all who are vulnerable, those who are quarantined or anxious.

We entrust to your Immaculate Heart those who have lost their livelihood or employment, our pastors and other essential service workers, and our leaders at this time.

We implore your intercession especially for the protection of doctors and nurses and those who minister to the contagious sick in this crisis.

Reign over us, Mother of God, and teach us how to make the Heart of Jesus reign and triumph in us and around us, as it has reigned and triumphed in you!

7 Lovely Logics

1. *Make peace with your past so it doesn't spoil your present*
2. *What others think of you is none of your business*
3. *Time heals almost everything, give the time, some time*
4. *No one is the reason of your happiness, except yourself*
5. *Don't compare your life with others, you have no idea what their journey is all about*
6. *Stop thinking too much, it's alright not to know all the answers*
7. *Smile, you don't own all the Problems in the World*

When my arms can't reach people who are close to my heart...

I always hug them with my prayers.



www.iampoopsie.com

Carolyn- "I wanted to share a contribution I made to our family Verse writing..... an activity I have been involved in during this time of isolation. Family members from London, Auckland, Sydney and Forster have contributed along the many weeks of isolation. It's been a great exercise in keeping in touch and keeping our brains ticking over. We've had a few different topics the latest one being social media. We were to write rhyming verse and five stanzas."

My topic is SOCIAL MEDIA

There's been a privacy invasion
Might I say on this occasion
There's no well kept secrets anymore
Our data's all in some cloud store.

Transported from my chair
Click an icon and I'm there
Anywhere I want to be
With anyone I want to see.

Click on Messenger, yes it's true
In a blink I'm with Andrew
Feels like I'm really there
In Hong Kong, London, anywhere.

With Mark and Suz I can connect
Text or FaceTime I select
What fun it sure can be
With this new technology

I don't have to leave the room
As with this magic thing called Zoom
I can hear and I can see
Friends and family important to me

Facebook photos we can share
Stories told are all out there
In the cloud or in the air
We're part of people everywhere.

Carolyn .-April 2020

BEE PRAYER

WINGED SPIRIT OF SWEETNESS,
I CALL ON YOU,
TEACH ME THE WAYS OF
TRANSFORMATION AND FERTILIZATION,
THE PATH FROM POLLEN TO SWEETEST HONEY,
TEACH ME TO TASTE THE ESSENCE
OF EACH PLACE I ALIGHT,
CARRYING THAT ESSENCE WITH ME
TO CONTINUE CREATION'S CYCLE
TEACH ME THE WAYS OF HOPE,
REMINING ME THAT WHAT SEEMS IMPOSSIBLE
MAY YET BE ACHIEVED,
FLITTING TEARS OF THE GODS,
DRAW ME EVER CLOSER TO THE WISDOM
HIDDEN WITHIN BEAUTY,
GIVE ME FLIGHT AND SUNLIGHT,
PASSION AND PRODUCTIVITY,
COOPERATION WITH THOSE AROUND ME
AND SHARPENED STRENGTH TO DEFEND MY HOME,
MAY I EVER SPIRAL OUT FROM MY HEART,
SEARCHING FOR WHAT I NEED,
AND RETURN THERE ONCE AGAIN
TO TURN THOSE LESSONS INTO NOURISHMENT.
BEE SPIRIT, I CALL TO YOU.

My wife said

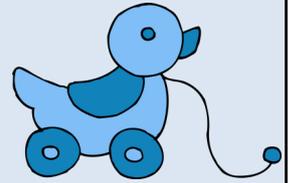
"You haven't been listening to a word I said".

I thought

"That's a strange way to start a conversation!"

SHARE WITH US WHAT MAKES YOU
HAPPY DURING ISOLATION.

Photo Collection



Robbie, Tash, Sophia and Hudson
welcome Monty George Clifford
Born 14th May



Send us your photos:

If you are happy to share some photos of your life at home in isolation, maybe doing some of those things that help us keep going: praying, knitting, playing cards, cooking, prayer space etc. please send them through to our email address or text Fr Greg: 0417321209. You can also send in your tips for getting through. Have you got a favourite recipe you could share? A book you've read that you might review for others? A poem? A short story? All elements for keeping together and staying afloat as the Parish family.



READINGS 23/24 MAY

First Reading

Acts 1:1-11

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

Why are you standing here looking into the sky? Jesus has been taken into heaven.

In my earlier work, Theophilus, I dealt with everything Jesus had done and taught from the beginning until the day he gave his instructions to the apostles he had chosen through the Holy Spirit, and was taken up to heaven. He had shown himself alive to them after his Passion by many demonstrations: for forty days he had continued to appear to them and tell them about the kingdom of God. When he had been at table with them, he had told them not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait there for what the Father had promised. 'It is' he had said, 'what you have heard me speak about: John baptised with water but you, not many days from now, will be baptised with the Holy Spirit.'

Now having met together, they asked him, 'Lord, has the time come? Are you going to restore the kingdom to Israel?' He replied, 'It is not for you to know times or dates that the Father has decided by his own authority, but you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you, and then you will be my witnesses not only in Jerusalem but throughout Judaea and Samaria, and indeed to the ends of the earth.'

As he said this he was lifted up while they looked on, and a cloud took him from their sight. They were still staring into the sky when suddenly two men in white were standing near them and they said, 'Why are you men from Galilee standing here looking into the sky? Jesus who has been taken up from you into heaven, this same Jesus will come back in the same way as you have seen him go there.'

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 46:2-3. 6-9. R. v.6

*(R.) God mounts his throne to shouts of joy:
a blare of trumpets for the Lord.*

or

(R.) Alleluia.

1. All peoples, clap your hands,
cry to God with shouts of joy!

For the Lord, the Most High, we must fear,
great king over all the earth. (R.)

2. God goes up with shouts of joy;
the Lord goes up with trumpet blast.
Sing praise for God, sing praise,

sing praise to our king, sing praise. (R.)

3. God is king of all the earth.

Sing praise with all your skill.

God is king over the nations;

God reigns on his holy throne. (R.)

Second Reading

Eph 1:17-23

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Ephesians

He made Jesus to sit at his right hand in heaven.

May the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, give you a spirit of wisdom and perception of what is revealed, to bring you to full knowledge of him. May he enlighten the eyes of your mind so that you can see what hope his call holds for you, what rich glories he has promised the saints will inherit and how infinitely great is the power that he has exercised for us believers. This you can tell from the strength of his power at work in Christ, when he used it to raise him from the dead and to make him sit at his right hand, in heaven, far above every Sovereignty, Authority, Power, or Domination, or any other name that can be named, not only in this age, but also in the age to come. He has put all things under his feet, and made him, as the ruler of everything, the head of the Church; which is his body, the fullness of him who fills the whole creation.

Gospel

Mt 28:16-20

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me.

The eleven disciples set out for Galilee, to the mountain where Jesus had arranged to meet them. When they saw him they fell down before him, though some hesitated. Jesus came up and spoke to them. He said, 'All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go, therefore, make disciples of all the nations; baptise them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teach them to observe all the commandments I gave to you. And know that I am with you always; yes, to the end of time.'

© The scriptural quotations are taken from the Jerusalem Bible, published and copyright 1966, 1967 and 1968 by Darton Longman and Todd Ltd and Doubleday & Co Inc, and used by permission of the publishers. The English translation of the Psalm Responses, the Alleluia and Gospel Verses, and the Lenten Gospel Acclamations, and the Titles, Summaries, and Conclusion of the Readings, from the Lectionary for Mass © 1997, 1981, 1968, International Committee on English in the Liturgy, Inc. All rights reserved. The prayers are from the English Translation of the Roman Missal © 2010 International Committee on English in the Liturgy Inc. (ICEL). All rights reserved.

Gospel Reflection by Greg Sunter

The short gospel passage for today is taken from the final words of the gospel of Matthew. It is known as 'The Great Commission' as Jesus is portrayed commissioning his disciples to go out to the world and spread the good news. They are charged to 'Go, therefore, make disciples of all the nations.' This is the basis of much of the missionary work of the Church that has gone on ever since then.

However, the focus of today's feast is much more on the first reading than the gospel. The opening verses of the Book of Acts, from the author of Luke-Acts, describe the final instructions of Jesus to his disciples and then his 'lifting up'. The Luke-Acts writer is the only gospel writer to actually describe the Ascension. The fact that the other gospels don't discuss the Ascension in any detail at all is a good indication that this description should not be taken literally.

However, the message of the Ascension is a powerful one. It reminds us that Jesus, the human incarnation of God on earth, was limited to a specific time and place in history. Despite the physical limitations of his life on earth, Jesus ensured that his message and ministry would continue through those he had taught. Knowing that the disciples would need time to grieve and come to terms with all that had occurred in a relatively short space of time, Jesus promised that the Spirit would come upon them in the days to come. That visiting of the Spirit upon the disciples at Pentecost was the motivation to set about doing what Jesus had charged them to do. Without the Ascension, there is no Pentecost.

Historical Context – To the ends of the earth

In both the gospel passage from Matthew and the passage from the Book of Acts, Jesus commissioned his disciples to go out to the whole world. In Matthew, it is to 'all the nations' and in Acts it is 'to the ends of the earth'. Both writers make it abundantly clear that the message of Jesus is not exclusively for the people of Israel but for all people everywhere. Within only a very few years, early Christian communities had sprung up all around the Mediterranean. Once Christianity became the religion of Rome it spread to all the corners of the Roman Empire.

Scriptural context – Not the only Ascension

The description of Jesus being taken up into heaven is a close parallel to the description of the great prophet Elijah also being taken up to heaven. Chapter 2 of 2 Kings describes Elijah speaking to his disciple Elisha in similar words to those used by Jesus to his disciples. The Jewish tradition had no belief in an individual resurrection and so the idea of Ascension was to recognise the greatness of the prophet. He was to be united with God in Heaven rather than having to wait for the great resurrection of all people at the end of time.

Living the Gospel – You will be my witnesses

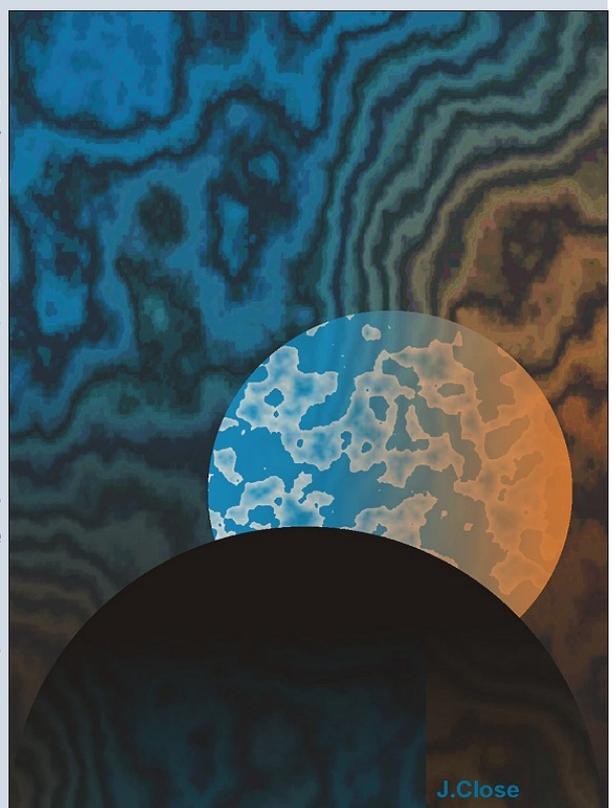
A witness in a court of law is called to give evidence about a matter; to 'testify' to the truth of what they have seen or what they know to be true. Some people are very good at being a 'witness' to their faith by testifying to others about what they believe. Many others provide witness to their faith by simply living what they believe. Living a life based on Christian principles, including regular prayer and worship in your life, working for justice in the world and taking time to celebrate the beauty of everyday life is a powerful witness to others.

Learning moments

Compare the account of Acts 1:1-11 with 2 Kings 2:1-18. What similar language, actions and concepts can you detect between the two accounts?

Research the missionary and witnessing work of people working with marginalised groups in local and national communities. How can they be seen as living out the commission Jesus gave to his disciples?

© Greg Sunter



J.Close

The Ascension of the Lord A

Sunday 24 May 2020

- Priest:** Brothers and sisters, with Christ ascended into heaven, let us bring our prayers to the Lord.
- Reader:** That the Holy Church will continue to bear witness to the Gospel with grace and courage.
(pause) In your glory:
- All:** Lord, hear our prayer.
- Reader:** That communities and nations experiencing the Covid-19 pandemic will have wise and strong leadership.
(pause) In your glory:
- All:** **Lord, hear our prayer.**
- Reader:** That those suffering financial hardship because of the pandemic will be supported and encouraged by their governments and communities.
(pause) In your glory:
- All:** **Lord, hear our prayer.**
- Reader:** That scientists will be guided in their work to develop vaccines for Covid-19 and other diseases
(pause) In your glory:
- All:** **Lord, hear our prayer.**
- Reader:** That students, facing uncertainty in their lives, will be guided and encouraged by their families and teachers.
(pause) In your glory:
- All:** **Lord, hear our prayer.**
- Reader:** That people everywhere will heed the message of Laudato Si and work towards the care of the Earth, our common home.
(pause) In your glory:
- All:** **Lord, hear our prayer.**
- Reader:** That our parish community may be inspired by the joy and hope of Christ's Ascension into heaven.
(pause) In your glory:
- All:** **Lord, hear our prayer.**
- Reader:** That the sick will be strengthened by God's abundant mercy, especially all those in our parish bulletin.
(pause) In your glory:
- All:** **Lord, hear our prayer.**
- Reader:** That those who have died will ascend to glory with Christ our Saviour, especially Marie Lyons & Terry O'Neill.
(pause) In your glory:
- All:** **Lord, hear our prayer.**
- Priest:** God our Father, your Son is with you, at your right hand. Hear our prayers and help us to glorify the work of our Saviour now enthroned in glory, through prayer, word and actions. We ask this through Christ our Lord.
- All:** **Amen.**

APPENDIX: Keeping Sunday Holy – What Can We Do?

To assist individuals and families during this time, the Diocesan Liturgy Council has offered the following options, particularly in keeping Sunday holy:

Praying with the Sunday readings: Such prayer may take many forms including *Lectio Divina* and Liturgies of the Word in families or small groups. Parishes may like to download the 'Weekly Prayer Sheet' with the Sunday readings from [LiturgyHelp](#) and email it to parishioners.

The Prayer of the Church: We recommend morning and evening prayer to individuals and families. We suggest downloading the [Universalis App](#) which contains not only the Prayer of the Church but also the Mass of the day and many other things. See also: <https://liturgy.life/2020/03/keeping-sunday-holy-when-we-cannot-gather-for-mass-liturgy-of-the-hours/>

Recorded Homilies: The homilies of Bishop Bill or Fr Andrew from the Cathedral Mass on Sundays will be recorded and made available online by lunch time on Sundays. These may help in individual or small group reflections on the readings of the day. These homilies can be accessed via [Spotify](#) or [iTunes](#).

Mass Streamed from Sacred Heart Cathedral: As already mentioned, the Diocese and Cathedral is currently investigating the possibility of livestreaming the Sunday Mass from Sacred Heart Cathedral celebrated by the Bishop or the Vicar General. Further information will be made available via the Diocesan website, which will also host the livestream if it becomes available.

The resources from [LiturgyHelp](#) can be of great assistance at this time in two significant ways:

This is the time to use LiturgyHelp to its fullest capacity. Make sure you are using your fifty part-username and logins for all your liturgical and pastoral ministers. Those who have access are encouraged to continue to reach out to members of the community during this time. For example, parish secretaries or Children's Liturgy ministers could download the resources under 'children' on the Sunday menu, and then send them to the families of children who would normally participate in Children's Liturgy, or to those who were enrolled in the sacramental journey.

Everyone in the diocese – individuals and families – can access a range of resources being made available through a special login. Parishioners should go to liturgyhelp.com/aus/mn/generalaccess, and enter their name and email address. This is for all people in communities connected to the Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle and will be available from Midday on Friday 20 March.

The resources available on the special login access version of LiturgyHelp will grow over time and initially include:

Access to the daily readings

Access to the daily Missal texts

Sunday Prayer Services (Liturgy of the Word and weekly prayer sheets)

Sunday and Special Feasts Scripture Commentary

Sunday and Special Feasts Homily and Reflection

Sunday Universal Prayer

General prayer – traditional, prayers to our Lady and litanies.

Sunday Prayer of the Church (Divine Office) from 29 March (morning and evening prayer)

There will be the possibility for us to augment this section over time if that were needed.

A Moment To Reflect

This moment of crisis is for all people, especially people of faith, an opportunity. What is God revealing to us in this unusual moment of hunger for Eucharist? We believe in the centrality of the word of God to our lives as disciples and as a community of the faithful. This is an opportunity to immerse ourselves in the word and to deepen the way we abide in the Word. Who might we become over this time if we do turn to the Word of God as the primary source of our sustenance? We have largely ignored the treasure of the Prayer of the Church – primarily Morning and Evening Prayer. Who might we become if we prayed this prayer and became more familiar with the Psalms and the human cries we hear there?

Let us seize this opportunity so that when this moment is over we might return to our celebration of eucharist with a deeper love for it and a renewed sense of what it means to participate fully and consciously and actively in the Paschal Mystery and life of our Triune God

For reflection

[Article by Massimo Faggioli: Mass Myopia and Coronavirus](#)



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

Emergency Contact 0417 321 209

Danielle Kingdom

Admin Assistant

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



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@catholicparishofforstertuncurry



CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

Holy Name Catholic School K-6

41 Lake Street, Forster

Ph: 6554 6504

E: admin@forster.catholic.edu.au

W: 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

W: www.tareesc.catholic.edu.au

Principal: Peter Nicholls

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