



Bridgeside Bulletin

The weekly Bulletin of the Catholic Parish of Forster Tuncurry

"Unity in Christ"

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

Sunday 31 May 2020,

PENTECOST SUNDAY - Year A

Dear Parish Family,

I am staggered by the advances in so many areas of life here in Australia and more broadly worldwide that I have witnessed in my short life time. If you think about your own journey the referendum of 1967 is but one. We could list couldn't we the Second Vatican Council, man's first steps on the moon, heart and organ transplants, research and advancements in educations, science and other health outcomes, the rise social media and the rise of the internet with its subsequent movement of information and ability to connect all of us. All shaping our understanding of the world and our part in it but as importantly I think offering some great opportunities for seeing God's hand guiding, moving and opening us to his presence, if we have the eyes and the heart to see as well as the voice of the Spirit developing our obligations and responsibilities.

This Sunday is Pentecost Sunday. We celebrate the breathing out of the Spirit as Christ promised on his return to the Father and the birth of our Church. This breathe of God, the Spirit, lets us know ourselves as never abandoned or alone. The Spirit helps us discern, helps us open our eyes to opportunities for ministry, gives us the courage to be members of the Body of Christ in the world and opens our hearts to love God. We all know the gifts of the Spirit but we can overlook that those gifts allow us to produce His good fruits – the gifts support our call to action! An action we know is about the way we relate to others; by being kind, gentle, patient, charitable, joyful, peaceful, humble.

This week marks National Reconciliation Week, 27 May till 3 June: 1967 referendum (27 May 1967), and the decision of the High Court in favour of Eddie Koiki Mabo's case (3 June 1992). NRW began as a week of prayer supported by most of the major faith traditions calling for reconciliation in 1993, the International Year for Indigenous peoples. In 2000 some 300,000 people walked across Sydney Harbour Bridge to support the need for Reconciliation a growing movement gaining more and more support. You may remember too, the Prime Minister of the day Kevin Rudd and his apology on behalf of us all to Australia's Indigenous peoples delivered in Parliament on the 13 Feb 2008. In some ways a return of dignity to the stolen generation. All considered landmark and significant moments in Australia's civil rights movement.

The story of Eddie Koiki Mabo is an interesting one. Starting his life on the Island of Mer in the Torres Strait he found himself cutting cane in Queensland and on the international stage as an activist. I was interested to read that he founded the first Aboriginal School in Australia, run by Aboriginal people for Aboriginal people in a disused Catholic School. According to the AIATSIS website the 'black community school' began with ten students in the heart of Townsville. Almost by accident in some ways Koiki found himself as an activist. Sometimes that's the way it works; seeing a need, an injustice or experiencing a personal wrong and being driven to change it. Doesn't that have some St Mary of the Cross Mackillop overtones; never see a need without doing something about it?

The referendum question in 1967 asked "Do you approve the proposed law for the alteration of the Constitution entitled 'An Act to alter the Constitution so as to omit certain words relating to



'the people of the Aboriginal race in any state so that Aboriginals are to be counted in reckoning the population'?" An overwhelming 91% of the population voted yes and so history was made and an injustice began to be corrected. The YES vote altered parts of the constitution and removed the words 'other than the aboriginal people in any State' from section 51(xxvi) and removed section 127 altogether. This section excluded Aboriginal people from the census.

The theme of this year's *Reconciliation Week* 'In this Together' is perhaps the main impact of the 1967 referendum and helped achieve the Mabo outcome; a greater sense of one nation and the equal rights of all Australia's peoples. There are still challenges to equality for all. One website I was reading talked about the difficulty under current legislation for Aboriginal people in remote communities to register for the Vote without an address. Recognition of culture for all peoples but specifically for our Aboriginal brothers and sisters is an ongoing challenge for our modern world. As some things change some things stay the same. Changing attitudes and prejudices not an easy thing in any era. Any one of us can test our prejudices by thinking about the words we use or the jokes we tell. If a word isn't something we would want said about ourselves maybe it's a word we shouldn't use about others.

As a Christian Catholic community we should expect that all peoples will be treated with fairness, dignity, respect, that the hungry will be fed and the homeless given shelter – we should expect nothing less. We are a Church that is supposed to be working for justice and speaking for the voiceless. Maybe that's one of the reasons that the Royal Commission was necessary in this our era and so critical of the many ways we had failed to live out our ministry; a necessary reminder to correct our course or more importantly our path as followers of Christ?

How we speak about and of each other as peoples, as peoples of faith, as peoples diverse and unique is reflective of how we see our God and the message of Christ for our world's betterment.

'In this Together' and National Reconciliation Week is a real opportunity for respecting, accepting and loving each other and showing that we do. A celebration of our Nation and all it is working to be.

Best wishes,



Fr Greg
Parish Priest

Cleaning Roster:

There will be some opportunities as we move forward for public Masses whether that is with 10, 50 or a hundred people. Whilst the government is allowing public gatherings many of the restrictions around those gatherings have not been lifted: 1.5 metre distancing, 4m² of floor spacing for inside spaces, hand sanitising, registering entry and exit as well as regular cleaning and a complete clean between gatherings. Our floor space with the restrictions allows us to hold a maximum gatherings of 100 people. If we get to that point we will only be allowed to hold Masses if the Church can be thoroughly cleaned after each use. What I need to determine from you my faithful family ☺ is: **are you willing/available/able to be on a cleaning roster to wipe down the pews and the backs of seats as required by the government?** Would you please let me know via email please as soon as possible. The availability of those to help will determine things like the times and quantity of Masses to be celebrated.



PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS:

Recently Deceased: Judy Shand, Terry Mason, Alan Winston & John Connell

Anniversary: Raymond Chaffen

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, Win Preston, Ken Vote, Anna Lee, Robyn Thomas, Adam Knixon, Angela McNamara, Lucilla Bacalla, 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.

DAILY DEVOTIONAL – Living with Holy Spirit Power

Be inspired, Be refreshed, Be renewed. Receive free short daily videos to inspire and strengthen you in your faith walk. Sign up: <https://brucedownes.org/pentecost-2020/>

ONLINE CATHOLIC PRAYER AND TEACHING SERVICE

Join us online each Sunday for a time of prayer and inspirational teaching to build your faith and help you live the life God has called you to. <https://www.brucedownes.tv/>
Call 1300 734 880 for more info

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.

Complimentary Pentecost Resource

The great feast of Pentecost celebrates the birth of the Christian Church, when the Holy Spirit came down on the apostles in a dramatic and tangible way. But how many of us give thought to the gentle, powerful presence of the Spirit in our lives?

This Faith Guide, written by eminent scripture scholar Dr Mary Coloe, takes us back to the heart of the mystery of Pentecost, and reminds us that the Spirit is not just a focus for the Confirmation class, but a living, creative force, for each and every one.

Resource can be found at https://www.garrattpublishing.com.au/pdf/FG-Pentecost_May2020.pdf



30 May 2020

Saying Thanks is not just a word – it is an act of kindness. Kindness is a dimension of God – part of the Love that He is.

<https://thanks.org.au/church/thanking-god/>



Calling for volunteers!

DURING COVID-19

IN RESPONSE TO THE GROWING NEED TO PROVIDE SUPPORT TO THE VULNERABLE AND DISADVANTAGED IN THE LOCAL COMMUNITY, CATHOLIC CARE, 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 & vegie 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.

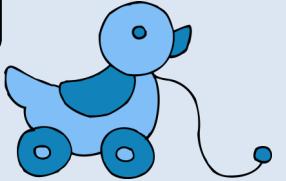
Volunteers will need to complete a National Criminal History Check, and hold a current Working with Children Check.

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

Photo Collection



Isaiah John Mills
Born 24/05/2020
Parents Tori &
Ben



Our first set of knitted baby items



Church is not where Christians really need to be. It's not where the work happens my friends. It's just our rest stop and our place to refuel. It's important but it's not everything. If all we do is stay in our little group closed off and pleased with our sameness we are not doing the work of Jesus. The real work comes when we leave our churches. When we enter the doors of a public school. (Oh to enter the doors of a public school!!) When we go to work Monday morning, or log on to see our smiling co-workers faces. When we're driving our cars or walking through Target. The real work of being a Christian is in the world, not in the pew. It's in offering some grace to that young mom in Target whose kids are loud and unruly and shamelessly begging in the toy aisle. It's in listening to that coworker who may vote differently than you ever would and just seeing them as a person or a friend. It's in standing up for the person others are gossiping about even when their life choices are not ones you would make. It's in inviting those who are alone into our circle even if it makes you feel sweaty and awkward. It's in letting a random driver go in front of you in traffic even when you're in a hurry. It's in striving to understand and love those that see the world differently and believe different things than we do. It's in standing up for what is good and noble and true. It's in putting others before yourself, considering the good of the whole over what is best for the one. In the Bible Jesus rarely stayed in groups that were like him. He sought out those that were different. So often he walked alongside those the world saw as living less than perfect lives. Those that needed him and his message of love. We are to do the same. We are to love on those that are different than us. Those that need the message of love as well as those that already have it. Those that, like each and every one of us, are living less than perfect lives. Because if all we do is stay in our church walls and talk about how right we are, we are missing everything we are supposed to be learning there. If all we do is watch church from our screen and check a box then we are really missing the boat. Out in the world my friends. That's where we need to be. Whether it is through our new best friend Zoom or with people in person. That's where we're called to go. First we worship together, then we bring Jesus to our world. -
shared by Susan Tychon from Facebook.



READINGS 30/31 MAY

First Reading

Acts 2:1-11

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

They were all filled with the Holy Spirit, and began to speak different languages.

When Pentecost day came round, the apostles had all met in one room, when suddenly they heard what sounded like a powerful wind from heaven, the noise of which filled the entire house in which they were sitting; and something appeared to them that seemed like tongues of fire; these separated and came to rest on the head of each of them. They were all filled with the Holy Spirit, and began to speak foreign languages as the Spirit gave them the gift of speech.

Now there were devout men living in Jerusalem from every nation under heaven, and at this sound they all assembled, each one bewildered to hear these men speaking his own language. They were amazed and astonished.

'Surely' they said 'all these men speaking are Galileans? How does it happen that each of us hears them in his own native language? Parthians, Medes and Elamites; people from Mesopotamia, Judaea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya round Cyrene; as well as visitors from Rome – Jews and proselytes alike – Cretans and Arabs; we hear them preaching in our own language about the marvels of God.'

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 103:1. 24. 29-31. 34. R. v.30

(R.) Lord, send out your Spirit
and renew the face of the earth.

or

(R.) Alleluia.

1.Bless the Lord, my soul!

Lord God, how great you are,

How many are your works, O Lord!

The earth is full of your riches. (R.)

2.You take back your spirit, they die,
returning to the dust from which they came.

You send forth your spirit, they are created;
and you renew the face of the earth. (R.)

3.May the glory of the Lord last for ever!

May the Lord rejoice in his works!

May my thoughts be pleasing to him.

I find my joy in the Lord. (R.)

Second Reading

1 Cor 12:3-7, 12-13

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

In the one Spirit we were all baptised, making one body.

No one can say, 'Jesus is Lord' unless he is under the influence of the Holy Spirit.

There is a variety of gifts but always the same Spirit; there are all sorts of service to be done, but always to the same Lord; working in all sorts of different ways in different people, it is the same God who is working in all of them. The particular way in which the Spirit is given to each person is for a good purpose.

Just as a human body, though it is made up of many parts, is a single unit because all these parts, though many, make one body, so it is with Christ. In the one Spirit we were all baptised, Jews as well as Greeks, slaves as well as citizens, and one Spirit was given to us all to drink.

Sequence

Holy Spirit, Lord of light,
From the clear celestial height
Thy pure beaming radiance give.
Come, thou Father of the poor,
Come with treasures which endure;
Come, thou light of all that live!
Thou, of all consolers best,
Thou, the soul's delightful guest,
Dost refreshing peace bestow;
Thou in toil art comfort sweet;
Pleasant coolness in the heat;
Solace in the midst of woe.
Light immortal, light divine,
Visit thou these hearts of thine,
And our inmost being fill:
If thou take thy grace away,
Nothing pure in man will stay;
All his good is turned to ill.
Heal our wounds, our strength renew;
On our dryness pour thy dew;
Wash the stains of guilt away:
Bend the stubborn heart and will;
Melt the frozen, warm the chill;
Guide the steps that go astray.
Thou, on us who evermore
Thee confess and thee adore,
With thy sevenfold gifts descend:
Give us comfort when we die;
Give us life with thee on high;
Give us joys that never end.



Gospel

Jn 20:19-23

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

As the Father sent me, so I send you: Receive the Holy Spirit.

In the evening of the first day of the week, the doors were closed in the room where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews. Jesus came and stood among them. He said to them, 'Peace be with you', and showed them his hands and his side. The disciples were filled with joy when they saw the Lord, and he said to them again, 'Peace be with you.'

'As the Father sent me,
so am I sending you.'

After saying this he breathed on them and said:

'Receive the Holy Spirit.

For those whose sins you forgive,

they are forgiven:

for those whose sins you retain,

they are retained.'

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Gospel Reflection by Greg Sunter

The feast of Pentecost celebrates the power of the Holy Spirit coming upon the disciples and energising them to set about their mission of continuing the ministry of Jesus. The gospel reading is one of the post-resurrection appearances by Jesus when he breathed the Holy Spirit upon the disciples. The actual events of that first Pentecost are recorded in the book of Acts and are recalled in this week's first reading. The use of this post-resurrection gospel account is a reminder that Jesus had already imbued the disciples with the Spirit but, as so often throughout his ministry, they were a bit slow to catch on to the significance of what he had done. It seems that they needed a more tangible experience to jolt them into action and Acts records the very physical experience of the Spirit entering their midst as a roaring wind before settling upon them as tongues of flame. Jesus had breathed the Spirit upon them but it took the roaring wind to make a real impression on the disciples. There are frequent references in the gospels to Jesus being 'filled with the Spirit'. It is this Spirit with which he was filled that he breathed upon his disciples; it is that same Spirit that we receive sacramentally in Confirmation.

For the weeks following the death of Jesus the disciples had lived in fear and confusion, not fully understanding what had happened and not really knowing what to do. When they realised that the Spirit Jesus had breathed upon them was really present and urging them to action they finally had the courage to begin the mission that Jesus had entrusted to them: to spread the Good News of Jesus and continue to realise his message in the world.

Historical Context – Pentecost

The word Pentecost comes from the Greek for fiftieth day. Pentecost Sunday ends the season of Easter and comes as a Sabbath day after seven weeks of seven days. In Jewish tradition the 50th day after the Passover was celebrated as a blessing of the harvest and rather than the unleavened bread of Passover it was celebrated by leavening the bread. It was for this reason that the disciples were gathered together when they experienced the Holy Spirit empowering them. In Christian tradition, Pentecost is celebrated as the arrival of the Spirit, promised by Jesus, that animated the disciples to spread the gospel of Jesus and gather believers to form what would eventually become the Church.

Have you thought? The Spirit

We can sometimes regard Pentecost as the day the Holy Spirit came into the world. However, the Spirit had long been active in the world before this event. In fact, even the second verse of Genesis Chapter 1 tells us that the Spirit hovered over the waters. The Old Testament is filled with references in which 'The Spirit of God came upon (him) with power' and the Spirit was evident at Jesus' baptism and throughout the gospels. Jesus is frequently described as being 'filled with the Spirit'. So, from the very beginning of creation the Spirit has moved in the world and continues to energise it today.

Living the Gospel – Come, Holy Spirit

'Come, Holy Spirit', or its Latin, 'Vene Sancte Spiritus', has become the basis of countless prayers and hymns over many hundreds of years. To this day, it remains a powerful invocation that can be used in prayer or meditation. Three simple words convey a wealth of meaning. The invitation for the Spirit to 'Come' indicates recognition of the need for the Spirit's intervention and openness to accept the guidance that the Spirit brings. It is a powerful, simple prayer that can be used at the outset of any significant undertaking or whenever you find yourself in need of inspiration.

Pentecost Sunday Year A
Sunday 31 May 2020

Priest: Sisters and brothers, with the Holy Spirit as our gift, let us bring our prayers before God.

Reader: That the Holy Church all over the world will be united as one in the spirit of peace.
(*pause*) In your glory:

All: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Reader: That leaders of nations will experience the Spirit of truth and fight for justice for all people.

(*pause*) In your glory:

All: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Reader: That those who do not know God will come to know Christ through the outpouring of the Holy Spirit.

(*pause*) In your glory:

All: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Reader: That through the forgiveness of sins, our parish community will renew the earth and reach out to all in need.

(*pause*) In your glory:

All: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Reader: That the sick will be comforted through the Spirit of healing, especially and all those in our parish bulletin.

(*pause*) In your glory:

All: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Reader: That through the Holy Spirit, those who have died will be sent to the Lord Most High, especially Raymond Chaffen, Terry Mason, John Connell, Alan Winston & Judy Shand

(*pause*) In your glory:

All: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Priest: God our Father, we are made one in the Holy Spirit. Hear our prayers and by the fire that is kindled in our hearts, help us to live as Christians united in holiness, forgiveness and love. 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-usernames 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 fullym consciously and actively in the Paschal Mystery and life of our Triune God

For reflection

[Article by Massimo Fagioli: 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

PARTH 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-Fri 9.00am- 3.30pm

Phone: 6554 6401

Website:

www.forstertuncurrycatholic.org.au



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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**



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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