



# 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*

*Ph: 6554 6401 E: forster-tuncurry.parish@mn.catholic.org.au W: www.forstertuncurrycatholic.org.au*

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

Sunday 5 July 2020,

Fourteenth Sunday In Ordinary Time - Year A

Dear Parish Family,

I've often reflected how much I learn about the scriptures by the way our readers read them. A tone change here, a voice inclination there, a pause somewhere else and I think 'Wow! That's exactly what that means!' This week my 'Wow' moment has come with the 'lost sheep' parable of Luke's Gospel or more importantly discovering the links in other scriptures to it.

I've had so many conversations these last couple of weeks around racism that I've spent an enormous amount of time researching why people have such a diverse sense of equality and diversity, and often interesting language around it. I don't often get shocked, I figure mostly I have heard it all: not true as it turns out, I've been shocked by some of the conversations I've had in regard particularly the 'Black Lives Matter' movement; which for me has overtones of social justice, ethics, morality and Christology.

I realise that there are elements across the world that have hijacked the movement but the message I think still holds. I feel it is akin to the message of the Church and Christ that has been hijacked by evil men and women at times and which can detract from the message of good; the good message still holds to be true.

As a result I have found myself more and more with that 'lost sheep' parable and really nutting out what it means for me, for you and for us with all the chaos in our world right now. And can I say I've spent more and more time with the 'prodigal son' parable as a result than I ever have before. It is an interesting exercise to read one with the other as the glossary of terms and meaning.

If you think about both those parables where have preachers or teachers spent most of their time? I would say, and over the years I've been guilty of this too, with the lost sheep or the lost son. More recently in the prodigal son story I have spent more time with the brother on the farm and the Father waiting for the return. I've also more and more seen the two brothers as one person, me! Sometimes incredibly faithful and loyal and at other times squandering the gifts or the inheritance. Also, as you may have heard me preach, with the 'faithful' brother who resents the return of the squandering and philandering sibling and who in the end is actually the prodigal son needing to return to the family and the father's love. The Father waits for both, implores both and is ready to forgive both; I take great heart from that.

Why does the shepherd head out leaving the 99 as he searches the lamb that is lost? When does he go looking? What does that moment mean for the 99 left in the fold? How do the returning shepherd and the lost lamb get restored to the 99?

I think they are pivotal questions for our own faith story and in particular our own place in the kingdom.

*(Continued on next page)*

Why does the shepherd go? Simply it's all about the love the Shepherd has for what is his. The flock is incomplete without the lost lamb. He has made a commitment as the Shepherd to guard the flock, to lead them to green pastures and to protect them, all of them! So he leaves the 99 in the sanctity of the sheepfold and goes looking for the one that is in danger. He trusts the sheep in some way to stay where he has left them together.

When does he go? He goes immediately. The sheep are in the fold and he knows where they are. The love he has for his flock drives his concern and need. There is no time to waste in the search for what is missing and could be lost forever.

What does that mean? I suspect if I was one of the 99 it should mean everything. I would want to know that the shepherd would come looking for me should I be lost. That he would set out immediately to look for me and that he would carry me back on his shoulders. A great image I think and one that gives me great comfort. I am worth the shepherd risking everything so that I might be saved. Think Jesus on the cross; that his love for me gives me great value and worth even when on the days that I am lost I may not feel it.

How do they come home? One would hope, like the father in the prodigal son parable, that there would be great rejoicing that what was lost has now been saved. Maybe like the prodigal son there is some resentment at the return and the shepherd has to work the lamb back into the flock. At the end of the day though, the flock is incomplete without the lamb being restored, and the 99 who have always had the shepherd's love and can share that love with great joy when the lost come back.

That's our story isn't it; that sometimes we are the lost sheep and sometimes we are the 99 but in either case we are immensely loved by the Shepherd no matter what.

What an amazing couple of days the Parish has had as the Community Kitchen has begun. Not huge crowds for the first couple of days but we now know that our space works and is a safe environment for anyone who needs to access it. Thanks to Sue Abdoo from Catholiccare who has coordinated the partnership and has worked hard to get it started. Thanks to all the Parish Members who have been involved together with not only Catholiccare but Holy Name Catholic Primary School and the St Vincent de Paul society.

We have an awesome team of volunteers from all works of life ready to help. It is not too late to call by and have a look or get a meal. Or indeed to volunteer! As we go along it would be good if we had a group who were just prepared to pop in for a meal occasionally and share the space with whoever else comes along. Just quietly it normalizes what is on offer there. I love that we are able to have a sit down meal that is hot and prepared with great love. Great work everyone involved.

Changes occur almost daily with the restrictions around COVID-19. I pray every day that we don't go backwards as Victoria has done. I was hoping to go down to see mum soon for a few days and have her come here as well: those plans are currently on hold as more and more areas of Melbourne are locked down. Keep praying please.

Have a great week everyone.

Kind regards,

*Greg*

Parish Priest



**PLEASE REMEMBER IN  
YOUR PRAYERS:**

**Recently Deceased:** Fr Norbett Pitterini, Ema Samsa, Keith Buckman, Isobel Pearce, Eric Horne

**Anniversary:** Mary McCarthy, Fr Tony Stace

*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, Lawson Rankin, Josephine Camilleri, Zac Gogerly, Junior Soliano, Ann Moreira, Dawn Gander, Win Preston, Ken Vote, Anna Lee, Robyn Thomas, Angela McNamara, Lucilla Bacalla, Betty Clarke, Denis Wilson

*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.*

**Process For Attending  
Sunday Mass**

*Please note that online live streaming of the 8.00am Mass will continue for the foreseeable future.*

As you know there are some restrictions included with the re-establishment of public Masses: communion on the hand and under only the species of Bread, no shaking hands, no holy water, designated seating, collection baskets available but not passed, social distancing for the communion line, sign in and sign out sheets available and mandatory, no singing, hand sanitiser and the cleaning of the church after each service: to facilitate a speedy and efficient cleaning process I am asking that you avoid kneeling.

**If you are unwell, have flu like symptoms or have anything that would put your health at risk or the health of others at risk you are**

**asked to stay home.**

**The current Mass times are: 8.00am, 10.00am and Noon.**

If you would like to attend Mass at one of the times mentioned you are asked to register, preferably by email however you are able to contact us by phone: forster-tuncurry.parish@mn.catholic.org.au or 6554 6401.

**To Register:**

1. Submit your name and the names of each person who will attend with you, your physical address and their address should that be different to yours, and contact phone number for each household.
2. Nominate the Mass you wish to attend: either 8, 10, noon or don't mind.
3. You can register on behalf of someone else providing that you have asked them. I know many don't have emails or access to the internet. Please feel free to pass the word around and talk with your friends about the process
4. If you have registered once you don't need to re-register each week, you will automatically be transferred over to the next weekends register list. Let us know when you will be away so that we can take you off the register for that weekend and also if you would like to change Mass times

**Then we will:**

1. On the Friday before, we will endeavour to make sure every person who has registered to attend will know that they have a spot or not. Those who have email will receive email confirmation those without will receive a phone call.

**If you are sick** could you let us know as soon as possible so that we can take your name off the list and include someone else. If you turn up on the day with flu like symptoms you can't come in.

**If you change your mind**, please let us know so that we may include someone else in the Mass. When you are ready we will still be here and Masses will still be celebrated. If you just don't show it will mean someone who could have gone will miss out.

If the Church is full should you just turn up, sadly for me I can't let you in under the current restrictions.

**Arrival:**

1. Arrival at the Church for Mass. In registering and receiving confirmation will ensure your name on a list so that you can enter the Church for Mass. You simply need to add your arrival and departure time to the sign in list.
2. Sanitise your hands as you enter. You will of course be used now to doing this as it doesn't matter where you go it is the norm.
3. Look for the crosses and indicators on the seats where places have been allocated for seating. If you live in the same house you are allowed to sit together, if you travel with some one but don't live with them you are required like all of us to maintain our 1.5 metre distancing. I know it sounds bizarre but it is one way if we can respect the rule to keep the church open.

**Departure from the Church:**

1. Please sign out.
2. You are asked not to linger after Mass but make your way home or out as your plan. The carpark and surrounds need to be cleared for the next Mass.
3. Remember social distancing is still in place and we are asked to maintain the 1.5 metre distancing..

*If you have any questions please don't hesitate to ask. I want to make it as easy as possible for you to come.*

**POPE'S PRAYER INTENTION** : Pope Francis this month has asked that we pray particularly for Families and hold at the forefront those particularly doing it tough like refugee families, those families finding it hard to make ends meet, and those families who need extra support as they relate to each other.

### **PLANNED GIVING ENVELOPES**

Planned giving envelopes for the 2020/21 financial year have been placed in the church for collection.

**The next collection count will be held on Monday 6th July with TEAM 6**

### **Community Kitchen**

The Forster-Tuncurry Community Kitchen opened to the public on Wed 1 July. If you are interested in volunteering the next **Info & Induction Session for the FTCK will be Wednesday 8th July at 10:00am, in the parish hall.** If you are interested in volunteering contact the Coordinator on 6539 5 9 0 0 or email at [sabdoo@catholiccare.org.au](mailto:sabdoo@catholiccare.org.au). If you would like to support the FTCK but are not able to volunteer your time, food donations can be placed in the bins at the side of the church. You can also contribute to the 'Meat Chest'. Cash donations towards the meat chest will go towards the purchase of meat and other dairy products needed to complete daily menus.

### **Weekday Masses and Cleaning**

**Cleaning:** there will be a meeting for those who are interested in helping clean the Church after the weekday Masses on Tuesday 7 July at 4.00 pm. Even if you are registered for the weekend cleaning would you please attend this meeting if you are interested in being part of this next stage of our reopen. Part of the conversation will be about availability and it is easier to have that conversation face to face.

**Mass Times:** Once we meet it will be

come clear what time the Masses will be celebrated. I am also in conversation with the Aged Care Facilities in this regard so there will be a bit of negotiation to be had with them. Again as we have done for the weekend we will need to gauge numbers ongoing so you may in the first instance need to register your interest in attending.

### **Free Public Lecture by Rev Prof Mark R. Francis CSV**

Mark R. Francis, MDiv, MA, SLD is President of Catholic Theological at Chicago. He has published extensively on liturgical topics with a special focus on the relationship between liturgy and culture. Following his ordination in 1982 Mark served for three years as chaplain and formation director in Bogotá Colombia. From 1992-2000 he was a member of the revision/ translation subcommittee of ICEL and from 2000-2012 he served as international superior of the Viatorians.

**Online: Monday July 20 10am-11:30am (AEST) via Zoom.** The Zoom link will be provided on 16 July 2020 to those who have registered. Registration is essential for this free public lecture by 15 July: [www.acu.edu.au/LectureFrancis](http://www.acu.edu.au/LectureFrancis)

For more information contact the ACU Centre for Liturgy [centreforliturgy@acu.edu.au](mailto:centreforliturgy@acu.edu.au) 02 9701 4751

### **Sacraments of Initiation Fallow Year Reflection Resource**

With COVID-19 came the cancellation of Parish Sacramental Programs, and Confirmation and First Communion celebrations. At the same time, Bishop Bill invited us to take a fallow year to reflect on our current pastoral practice. In response, the Diocesan Liturgy Council prepared a resource document to support the community's reflection. That resource document is now available online:

<http://mnews.today/liturgy-matters/2020/51575-sacraments-of-initiation-fallow-year-resource/>

**Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Sunday will be celebrated throughout Australia this Sunday 5 July** – despite NAIDOC week occurring later in the year. NATSICC feels it is important that we celebrate as Australians during these difficult times. A number of initiatives have been put in place to assist schools and parishes to come together:

- Archbishop Pat O'Regan will celebrate a nationally livestreamed Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Sunday Mass at 11.30am EST. The link will be available at [www.natsicc.org.au](http://www.natsicc.org.au)
- Parishes that are holding a physical Mass will be able to conduct an Acknowledgement using a Virtual Acknowledgement available at <https://www.natsicc.org.au/2020-atsi-sunday.html>
- Along with Torres Strait Islander hymns and interactive activities, Youth Resources for schools are also available at <https://www.natsicc.org.au/2020-atsi-sunday.html>

### **Hello Hunter**

Hello Hunter helps people who are feeling isolated, lonely or anxious. Volunteers are available to make a friendly call, deliver essentials, assist in finding specialised help or on request pray with the person.

Hello Hunter has a call centre, which takes requests for assistance, then neighbourhood hubs mobilise their volunteers. Hubs are formed according to suburb and postcode. The goal is to have the person in need assisted by their nearest neighbour.

Hello Hunter are now looking for hub leaders and volunteers. Volunteers need to submit a form, validated by their local parish priest or parish leader. Go to [hellohunter.org.au](http://hellohunter.org.au) for more information.

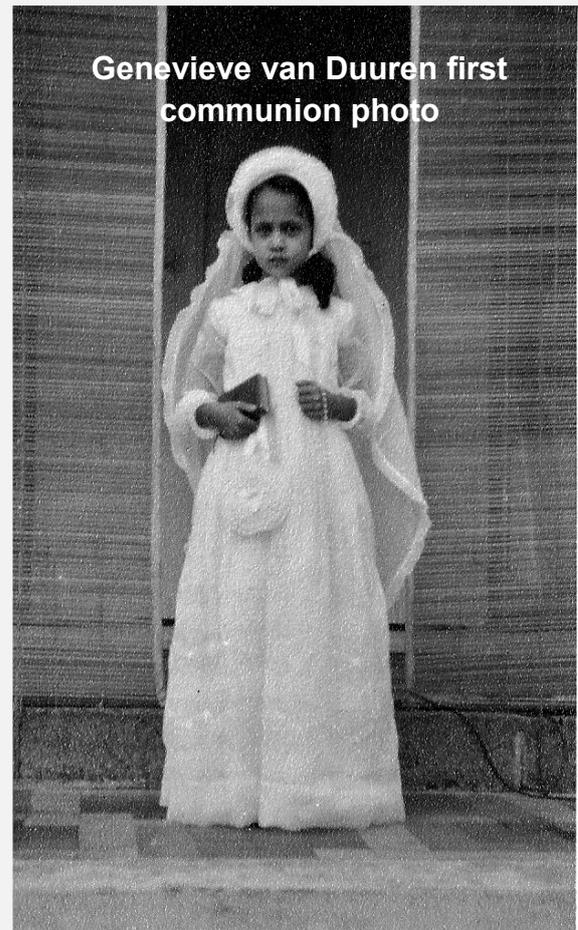
# FT Community Kitchen



## Photo Collection



Some of the awesome baby knits



Genevieve van Duuren first communion photo

## Kenya and the Reuben Centre

For those who gave me money to send with mine to Kenya these are some of the people we helped.



## Kenya and the Reuben Centre



Bruno is a volunteer with erkg and lost his casual at the beginning of corona. His wife has a condition in which she can't breastfeed. The nipples are inside and no milk comes out. They have to feed their baby with fresh milk from the shop. We paid their one month rent and bought milk and foodstuff for them. He called to say thank you to all those that contributed.

Brandy and Deno are both erkg volunteers and are facing it tough. Brandy is expecting a baby in and around Aug. She is currently staying with her mum around St. Stephens area as she is not in good terms with Deno. We bought her a shopping voucher worth 2000 shillings from cleanshelf supermarket and told her to buy something in readiness for baby. She said she would buy a warm blanket, baby beanies and socks and food for family.



Mama Sharon from Kibera is a struggling family mum. The husband in the picture was a driver in one of the tour companies and lost his income. They are here posing with a bale of ugali flour and vegetables that will take them a fair good time.



## READINGS 4/5 JULY

### First Reading

Zec 9:9-10

#### A reading from the prophet Zechariah

*See how humbly your king comes to you!*

The Lord says this:

'Rejoice heart and soul, daughter of Zion!

Shout with gladness, daughter of Jerusalem!

See now, your king comes to you;

he is victorious, he is triumphant,

humble and riding on a donkey,

on a colt, the foal of a donkey.

He will banish chariots from Ephraim

and horses from Jerusalem;

the bow of war will be banished.

He will proclaim peace for the nations.

His empire shall stretch from sea to sea,

from the River to the ends of the earth.'

### Responsorial Psalm

Ps 144:1-2. 8-11. 13-14. R. v.1

*(R.) I will praise your name for ever,  
my king and my God.*

*Or (R.) Alleluia.*

1. I will give you glory, O God my King,

I will bless your name for ever.

I will bless you day after day

and praise your name for ever. (R.)

2. The Lord is kind and full of compassion,  
slow to anger, abounding in love.

How good is the Lord to all,

compassionate to all his creatures. (R.)

3. All your creatures shall thank you, O Lord,  
and your friends shall repeat their blessing.

They shall speak of the glory of your reign

and declare your might, O God. (R.)

4. The Lord is faithful in all his words

and loving in all his deeds.

The Lord supports all who fall

and raises all who are bowed down. (R.)

### Second Reading

Rom 8:9.11-13

#### A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

*If by the Spirit you put an end to the misdeeds of the body, you will live.*

Your interests are not in the unspiritual, but in the spiritual, since the Spirit of God has made his home in you. In fact, unless you possessed the Spirit of Christ you would not belong to him, and if the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you, then he who raised Jesus from the dead will give life to your own mortal bodies through his Spirit living in you.

So then, my brothers, there is no necessity for us to obey our unspiritual selves or to live unspiritual lives. If you do live in that way, you are doomed to die; but if by the Spirit you put an end to the misdeeds of the body you will live.

### Gospel

Mt 11:25-30

#### A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

*I am gentle and humble of heart.*

Jesus exclaimed, 'I bless you, Father, Lord of heaven and of earth, for hiding these things from the learned and the clever and revealing them to mere children. Yes, Father, for that is what it pleased you to do. Everything has been entrusted to me by my Father; and no one knows the Son except the Father, just as no one knows the Father except the Son and those to whom the Son chooses to reveal him.

'Come to me, all you who labour and are overburdened, and I will give you rest. Shoulder my yoke and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. Yes, my yoke is easy and my burden light.'

### Gospel Reflection by Greg Sunter

When we hear the term, yoke, we tend to think about the yoke that is used to harness oxen together or the yoke that someone might carry on their shoulder to balance a heavy load. This yoke across the shoulder was adopted into tailoring and so the shoulder piece set into a shirt is also called a yoke. However, in the Jewish tradition there is a completely different meaning to the term. The yoke of a rabbi was his particular interpretation of Torah (the Law); his particular teaching. Disciples who followed a particular rabbi sought to take on his yoke; his particular interpretation. The yoke of any rabbi was best identified by asking him, 'Which is the greatest commandment?' A rabbi's answer to this question revealed his interpretation of Torah. When Jesus is asked that question, he answers, 'Love God and love your neighbour,' and goes on to say that all of the rest of the Law and the prophets flows on from these two commandments. This is the yoke – the interpretation of Torah – that Jesus taught.

In today's gospel, Jesus calls to him all those who labour and are overburdened. It is the Pharisaic interpretation of the Law that burdens these people. Trying to maintain the Law was burdensome and complicated for the everyday person. Jesus says, 'Shoulder my yoke and learn from me ... my yoke is easy.' The yoke of Jesus was easy: Love God and love your neighbour. Compared to the 613 mitzvot (commands) set out in the Torah and strictly maintained by the Pharisees, the yoke of Jesus was incredibly easy to understand and adopt. So simple, in fact, that it required a child-like simplicity to accept this yoke.

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**Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A**  
**Sunday 5 Jul 2020**

**Priest:** Sisters and brothers, with gentle and humble hearts let us offer our prayers before the Lord.

**Reader:** That our Holy Church will be supported in charitable works for the poor and marginalised.  
(*pause*) In your mercy:

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

**Reader:** That family members will treat each other with kindness and respect by practising harmony and compassion in their homes.  
(*pause*) In your mercy:

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

**Reader:** That people suffering burdens and mental turmoil will find rest in God.  
(*pause*) In your mercy:

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

**Reader:** That our parish community will live as peacemakers in Christ, with a reconciling heart and a welcoming spirit.  
(*pause*) In your mercy:

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

**Reader:** That the sick will find relief from their suffering in the peace of God, especially all those in our parish bulletin.  
(*pause*) In your mercy:

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

**Reader:** That those who have died will live forever in Christ's loving embrace, especially Fr Norbett Pitterini, Ema Samsa, Keith Buckman, Isobel Pearce, Eric Horne & Mary McCarthy  
(*pause*) In your mercy:

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

**Priest:** Loving God, Jesus reveals your kingdom to children. Hear our prayers and help us to live child-like in your love through obedience and faith in Christ. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

**All:** **Amen.**



### 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

Sun. 8.00am, 10.00am & 12.00pm

### RECONCILIATION

By appointment only

### YOUTH MASS

3rd Sunday of the month, will resume once restrictions have eased.

### 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-Fri 9.00am- 3.30pm

Phone: 6554 6401

### Website:

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



Follow us on facebook:

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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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