



# 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 7 FEBRUARY 2021,**

**FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME YEAR B**

Peace in Christ, Parish Family!

During my first weekend in Forster, a couple from Newcastle dropped by to join our midday Eucharistic celebration. I have known them since I moved to Australia in 2017. Doug's family is originally from Taree while his wife, Ching, hails from the Philippines. After the Mass, I had a short conversation with them. I was talking to Doug in English and in Tagalog (one of the Filipino languages) with Ching. Then, a local Forster parishioner, who comes from the southern part of the Philippines, approached me and asked me: "Father, where did you learn to speak Filipino?" I responded to her in the language used in her region (which is totally different from Tagalog). She was doubly surprised. But some Aussies also had difficulty locating my accent. Hearing my voice for the first time, some suggested that I have a distinct Philly or Yankee accent. I have always claimed that what I have is a Filipino accent.

Growing up as a kid, English has been the medium of instruction during my Primary and High School years. I remember that we would be penalized if we did not address and converse with our educators and fellow students in English. At Uni, English was also the medium of instruction. Our assessments, whether oral or written, were in English. Most of the foreign films that I have been exposed to since birth were from Hollywood. In a way, I have acclimatized and appropriated the American English in my system although I do not look like your typical Yankee. If I grew up with Paul Hogan, I can imagine myself acquiring Crocodile Dundee's accent and his knife.

We acclimatize and appropriate the culture mediated to us. It is not only limited to the way we speak. Just look at your food preference, the sports that you love, the idiomatic expressions that you use, the kind of clothes that you wear, among others. We are who we are because our lives have been immersed at a particular context and time. That is why when I cried, "Aussie! Aussie! Aussie!" during my homily on Australia Day at Taree, the people responded "Oi! Oi! Oi!" If I did that in the Philippines, people would throw a blank stare at me. We acclimatize and appropriate the practices, traditions, expressions that have been mediated to us.

But, have we acclimatized and appropriated the language of the faith in our lives? Have we genuinely and authentically allowed the Word to take possession of our whole being? All our lives, we have been exposed to the Gospel values and the Christian message, are they even palpable in our interaction with each other? Do people recognize the faith in us as individuals and as a community? Or, do people approach you and confront you with these words: "And, you call yourself a follower of Christ?!"

Starting this Lent until Pentecost, our Diocese is inviting us to dialogue with our communities and discern how we can contribute in building the Kingdom of God in this part of the Universal Church. I reckon that this a good opportunity for us, individually and as a community, to genuinely and authentically ask ourselves if we have allowed the Word to take possession of our whole being. Delegates to the Synod are being trained this week to equip them with the skills to facilitate the communal discernment in our parishes. You may access the resources for the contemplative dialogue on the Diocesan Synod website -- <https://www.domnsynod.com.au/>

We are also encouraged to forward a copy of the key points and the fruits of our conversations to the Working Committee of the Synod via the same website. The responses forwarded to them would help inform and guide the ongoing process for all those involved in the Diocesan Synod.

May all those who encounter us in our Parish and in the Diocese, whether they are here on a holiday or your local neighbour, see, hear, feel from us the presence of Christ. And, may you and your loved ones have a blessed and meaningful week ahead of you.

Fr Anthony



## **PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS:**

### **Recently Deceased:**

**Anniversary:** Lew Hogann, Stanley Douglas Hicks, Paul Anthony Hicks, Daniel Finbarr Kiely, Josephine Johanna Kiely, Paul Conaghan, Andy Cross & Michael Jenkins

**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, Ray Vidler, Rachal, Robert Greig, Lawson Rankin, Josephine Camilleri, Zac Gogerly, Ann Moreira, Dawn Gander, Win Preston, Ken Vote, Anna Lee, Robyn Thomas, Angela McNamara, Lucilla Bacalla, Denis Wilson, Clare McKay, Kath Copas, Bill McElroy, David Ball, Michael Siddle, Ellen Stewart, Rod Milligan, Camille Betar, Joseph Barnett, Veronica Bucki, Michelle Perera Byrne, Ruth Morrow, Marceline Loiseau, Janet Bezpek

**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: Sat 5.00pm & Sun 8.00am, 10.00am and 12 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: foster-tuncurry.parish@mn.catholic.org.au or 6554 6401.

### **To Register:**

1. Submit your name and others who will attend with you, address and contact phone number.
2. Nominate the Mass you wish to attend.
3. You can register on behalf of someone else providing that you have asked them.
4. Your booking can be re-occurring so that you only need to register once.
5. For re-occurring bookings 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.
6. You will then receive an email to confirm your attendance.

**We strongly encourage everyone to use the QR code linked to the Service NSW app to check in and out of the church. If you require assistance with this check in process please contact the office and we will help.**

### **Arrival:**

1. Sanitise your hands as you enter the church.
2. **Scan the QR code and check in or sign in using the registration sheet.**
3. Look for the crosses and indicators on the seats where places have been allocated for seating. If you live in the same house or have travelled together you are allowed to sit together.

4. Avoid unnecessary movement around the church.

5. Remember social distancing is still in place and we are asked to maintain the 1.5 metre distancing.

### **Departure:**

1. **Check out in the Service NSW app.**
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.

**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.

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

**If you are coming from an area of high COVID-19 transmission** we ask that you consider viewing Mass through our live stream option instead of attending.

### **Parish Timetable**

<b>WEEKDAY MASS</b>
8 Feb—13 Feb
<b>TUE: NO MASS AT 4.30PM</b>
<b>WED: 9.00am</b>
<b>FRI: 9.30am</b>

<b>Mon 8 Feb</b>	<b>9am Counters— Team 6</b>
<b>Tue 9 Feb</b>	<b>9.30am Christian Meditation 2pm Funeral Mass— John Duffy (register attendance)</b>
<b>Wed 10 Feb</b>	<b>11am Novena to Our Lady of Perpetual Help 12pm Community Kitchen</b>
<b>Thu 11 Feb</b>	<b>12pm Community Kitchen</b>

## FACE MASKS FOR SALE IN CHURCH

\$10 ea or 3 for \$25.

### What's happening locally...

#### COMFORT

#### Lenten Program 2021

"Comfort" contains short daily reflections (from Ash Wednesday to Easter Sunday) which is perfect for group or individual devotional reading. **Copies are available for \$7 from the church.**

"Comfort" is accompanied by a Triple CD Resource that includes six beautiful responsorial psalms and audio narrations of the readings and Scripture reflections. **If you wish to obtain a copy of the CD Resource please bring a USB into the Parish Office to be copied onto.**

#### World Day of Prayer

The World Day of Prayer will be held on **5th March 2021 at 10am at St Alban's Anglican Church.** Everyone is welcome to attend this event. The facilitator at the Anglican Church has asked for a volunteer reader from the Catholic Parish of Forster-Tuncurry. Please contact the parish office if you are interested in reading at this event.

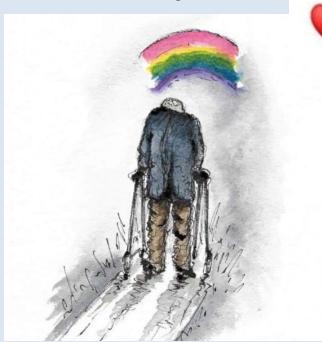
#### Community Kitchen

Food donations are always welcomed for the Forster-Tuncurry Community Kitchen pantry. These food items are used to create food hampers for people in need. Long life food items can be placed in the bins at the side of the church.

#### THE LATEST NEWS FROM OUR SAFEGUARDING PROMOTERS

Our Parish Safeguarding Promoters would like to share with our Parish Community the strong message delivered by Bishop Bill Wright on this issue: *"I call upon each one of you. Every parishioner in our faith communities, each worker in our CatholicCare and other community and family support services, every staff member in our schools and our St Nicholas Centres, each cleric and religious conducting ministry amongst us. We must, each one of us, commit ourselves every day, individually and collectively, to safeguard each child and every vulnerable adult with whom we interact."*

**Captain Sir Tom Moore:** We remember what an inspiration this man was for his country and our world during the height of the pandemic. Not to mention the 60 million pounds he raised for the Allied health industry of Britain by simply walking around his garden or that he did at 99 years old. What caught my attention apart from his age was his ability to make a difference within his capabilities. As Mary MacKillop says never see a need without doing something about it: we don't need to fly high to achieve what Mary challenges us too. He saw a need, did something about it. May he rest in peace. May his example inspire us all. May we all recognise the gifts and talents we have and use them for the good of others, Best wishes, Greg Parish



#### Scam Alert:

The Parish and Fr Greg will not request gift cards or vouchers in support of any charity or person in need. Scammers are utilising resources linked to the Parish and our public advertising mediums. The parish and Fr Greg have a significant and identifiable email address linked to the Catholic Church and neither operates a Gmail, Hotmail or Yahoo account. If you receive any correspondence from emails with these address 'tails' they should be questioned before responding. Requests for assistance from these platforms should be ignored under all circumstances.

The ATO and Telstra do not request accounts to be paid with gift cards. Telstra does not make contact with you unrequested to fix problems with your computer. It is always best to make a call by first accessing the phone number from the whitepages or your bills/mail should you be concerned about issues or debts and making a call to them yourself: it is not the best option to ask the unsolicited caller for the number. Scammers are clever!

#### Australian Catholic University – Vaccines, viruses and vulnerabilities: Catholic health and care of the human person

On this year's World Day of the Sick, we are bringing together international experts and thought leaders to discuss mental health, public health and the question of solidarity in the face of this global pandemic.

**Date:** Thursday 11 February 2021

**Time:** 12pm (AEDT)

**Cost:** Free to participate

**Register by:** Monday 8 February

Information and registration: [acu.edu.au/WDOS2021](http://acu.edu.au/WDOS2021)

### What's happening in the Diocese...

#### A message from the Council for Catholic Women (CACW):

Following the disbandment of the Council for Australian Catholic Women (CACW) by the Australian Bishops Conference local dioceses have been asked to develop their own consultative process. The former Contact Group for the CACW has written to Bishop Bill, who has given his verbal approval, to approve Statutes and Protocols for the formation of a diocesan Council for Women. The first meeting of the proposed Council will be held 4pm at the Diocesan Offices on Thursday 11th February 2021. All interested people are invited to attend. Please contact Yvonne Rohr at [ymrohr@gmail.com](mailto:ymrohr@gmail.com) or Helene O'Neill at [Helene.ONeill@mn.catholic.org.au](mailto:Helene.ONeill@mn.catholic.org.au) for further information.

#### The Rite of Election – Sunday 21 February 2021

The Rite of Election on Sunday February 21 is an opportunity to welcome all the catechumens who will be baptised in their parishes at the Easter Vigil [a catechumen is an unbaptised person whose search for meaning has brought them to the Catholic Church]. Join the People of God in witness and prayerful support of those who choose to become Catholic. 2.30pm Sacred Heart Cathedral Newcastle West, followed by afternoon tea. Please RSVP for covid-safe catering numbers - E s h a - ron.murphy@mn.catholic.org.au or P 4979 1134.



## READINGS 6/7 FEBRUARY

### First Reading

Jb 7:1-4. 6-7

*A reading from the book of Job*

I am filled with sorrow all day long.

Job began to speak:

Is not man's life on earth nothing more than pressed service,

his time no better than hired drudgery?

Like the slave, sighing for the shade,  
or the workman with no thought but his wages,

months of delusion I have assigned to me,  
nothing for my own but nights of grief.

Lying in bed I wonder, 'When will it be day?'

Risen I think, 'How slowly evening comes!'

Restlessly I fret till twilight falls.

Swifter than a weaver's shuttle my days have passed,  
and vanished, leaving no hope behind.

Remember that my life is but a breath,  
and that my eyes will never again see joy.

### Responsorial Psalm

Ps 146:1-6. R. v.3

(R.) *Praise the Lord who heals the broken-hearted.*

or

(R.) *Alleluia!*

1. Praise the Lord for he is good;  
sing to our God for he is loving:  
to him our praise is due. (R.)

2. The Lord builds up Jerusalem  
and brings back Israel's exiles,  
he heals the broken-hearted,  
he binds up all their wounds.

He fixes the number of the stars;  
he calls each one by its name. (R.)

3. Our Lord is great and almighty;  
his wisdom can never be measured.

The Lord raises the lowly;  
he humbles the wicked to the dust. (R.)

### Second Reading

1 Cor 9:16-19. 22-23

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

Punishment will come to me if I do not preach the Gospel.  
I do not boast of preaching the gospel, since it is a duty  
which has been laid on me; I should be punished if I did  
not preach it! If I had chosen this work myself, I might  
have been paid for it, but as I have not, it is a responsibil-

ity which has been put into my hands. Do you know what my reward is? It is this: in my preaching, to be able to offer the Good News free, and not insist on the rights which the gospel gives me.

So though I am not a slave of any man I have made myself the slave of everyone so as to win as many as I could. For the weak I made myself weak. I made myself all things to all men in order to save some at any cost; and I still do this, for the sake of the gospel, to have a share in its blessings.

### Gospel

Mk 1:29-39

*A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark*

He cured many who suffered from diseases of one kind or another.

On leaving the synagogue, Jesus went with James and John straight to the house of Simon and Andrew. Now Simon's mother-in-law had gone to bed with fever, and they told him about her straightaway. He went to her, took her by the hand and helped her up. And the fever left her and she began to wait on them.

That evening, after sunset, they brought to him all who were sick and those who were possessed by devils. The whole town came crowding round the door, and he cured many who were suffering from diseases of one kind or another; he also cast out many devils, but he would not allow them to speak, because they knew who he was.

In the morning, long before dawn, he got up and left the house, and went off to a lonely place and prayed there. Simon and his companions set out in search of him, and when they found him they said, 'Everybody is looking for you.' He answered, 'Let us go elsewhere, to the neighbouring country towns, so that I can preach there too, because that is why I came.' And he went all through Galilee, preaching in their synagogues and casting out devils.



## Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time Year B

**Sunday 07 Feb 2021**

**Priest:** Sisters and brothers, in body and soul let us bring our intentions before God.

**Reader:** That our Holy Father Pope Francis will stifle division and weakness in the Holy Church.

*(pause) In your mercy:*

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

**Reader:** That all who work with victims of violence will relieve hopelessness and instil peace and calm.

*(pause) In your mercy:*

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

**Reader:** That those struggling with their faith will call on Christ and find relief from their sorrow.

*(pause) In your mercy:*

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

**Reader:** That our parish community will show charity and compassion in our visits to the bereaved and the lonely.

*(pause) In your mercy:*

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

**Reader:** That the sick and housebound will find healing joy in Christ, especially all those in our parish bulletin

*(pause) In your mercy:*

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

**Reader:** That those who have died will be called by name and live forever with the Lord, especially Lew Hogann, Stanley Douglas Hicks, Paul Anthony Hicks, Daniel Finbarr Kiely, Josephine Johanna Kiely, Paul Conaghan, Andy Cross & Michael Jenkins

*(pause) In your mercy:*

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

**Priest:** Loving Father, your Son bore our sin and endured our suffering. Hear our prayers and help us to live strong in faith as we celebrate the glory of his resurrection. 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 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:

@catholicparishofforstertuncurry

### COMMUNITY KITCHEN

Serving meals to the community from the parish hall  
Wed & Thurs 12pm-1pm

### 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

#### 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

1st Thursday 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



### SUNDAY MASS TIMES

Sat 5.00pm

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**



### 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