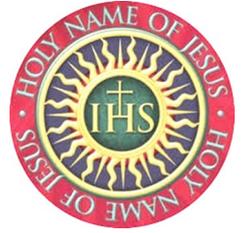




Bridgeside Bulletin



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 4 SEPTEMBER 2022,

TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Dear Brothers and Sisters.

Last Friday night was the yearly celebration of the Sacrament of Confirmation for the children in the parish. There were some 26 young people Confirmed. Please see some photos inside and also keep an eye out on the parish website for more.

This weekend we will commence the new way of taking up the collections. Both collections will be taken up at the same time, that is immediately after the Universal Prayers. The first collection, (in the blue bag), is for the running of the parish, the payment of staff and the maintenance of the Church and other buildings. Once the collection bag is about 3 or so pews from where it started the second bag, (red), will be sent around. The second collection is for the care of the Clergy. I thank you for your continued generosity to the parish.

One of the ways that we can live out our discipleship is to volunteer for ministries in the parish. There are many groups and miniseries in our parish. There are many ways to serve God in the parish, how are you called to do this?

I would like to make a few points about receiving Holy Communion. I have no problem with people receiving on the tongue. I would however, point out to those who wish to receive on the tongue that your mouth needs to be opened wide, and your tongue needs to be out. Also, please keep your head still. For those who receive on the hand I remind you, to place your hand flat and do not move your hand. Please do not grasp my hand or fingers. Allow me to place the Host on your hand. Please then consume the Host in front of the person who gives it to you.

A reminder to all those who read the Word of God in the Sacred Assembly, please do NOT change the readings; add nothing and leave nothing out. The Sacred Scriptures do not belong to us to change. By changing them in whatever way or for whatever reason, we may change the meaning of the reading. Please, do not do it.

This last week we have marked 6th months since the evil and illegal action of Russia in their invasion of The Ukraine; this weekend also marks the anniversary of the Second World War. Please one and all remember to pray for peace.

This weekend we also acknowledge Father’s day. All fathers will be given a blessing at the end of Masses. We hold all our father and grandfathers, living or dead in our hearts, prayers, and Masses this weekend.

During the month of September the Diocese will mark the perpetual day of Remembrance and also the Perpetual Sunday of Remembrance. May we be committed to doing all we can, each one of us, to ensure that this does not happen again. I commend to you the events of Sunday the 11th of September and Thursday the 15th.



ATTENTION: PLEASE PROVIDE YOUR FEEDBEACK

As I have mentioned before, our Parish needs to have a Parish Pastoral Plan. This is a plan that will guide what we do as a Parish and sets out our direction, and a path towards meeting the goals that the plan sets. To that end I ask each one of you to fill out the following section and return it to the office by putting it in the collection bags next week. The 3 questions are:

1. What is it that I most value about my Faith and Parish community?

2. What key challenge do I believe our Parish needs to focus over the next 12 to 36 months?

3. What can the Parish do to meet this focus?



With Love.
Fr. Peter.

Parish Timetable

Mon 5 SEP	9am Counters– Team 7 12pm Community Kitchen
Tue 6 SEP	9.30am Christian Meditation 12pm Community Kitchen 3.30pm Holy Hour, Benediction & Confession 4.30pm Mass
Wed 7 SEP	11am Novena of Our Lady of Perpetual Help 12pm Community Kitchen
Thu 8 SEP	10.30am Kularoo Aged Care Mass <i>followed by morning tea in hall</i> 12pm Community Kitchen
Fri 9 SEP	9.30am Mass
Sat 10 SEP	9.30am Mass 4.00pm Confession 5.00pm Vigil Mass
Sun 11 SEP	8.00am Mass 10.00am Mass

Parish Notices

- **No Mass on Wed 7th Sep** as Fr Peter will be away.
- There will be **morning tea in the hall after the 10am Mass** from 4th Sep onwards. Come and enjoy a cuppa with friends.
- **Bible study will be put on hold until 2023**, when everyone will be able to gather again.
- Please note that Fr Peter will be away on retreat from 19th —23rd Sep

Family & Friends Group invite you to lunch

on Sunday 11th September at 12 noon
at Paradise Marina.



Please ring Mary Greig

(0409 270 947) the week before so she can confirm numbers.

Kularoo Aged Care Mass

A Mass will be held on **Thursday 8th Sep at 10.30am** for the residents of BaptistCare Kularoo Aged Care Centre followed by morning tea in the parish hall. **Please bring a plate of food to share for morning tea.**

Perpetual Day of Remembrance

September 15 is the Perpetual Day of Remembrance (PDoR) promulgated by Bishop Bill as part of our response to child sexual abuse in our diocese. 'Perpetual Day of Remembrance Sunday' is September 11 this year. More information will be published in the coming weeks.

Prayer for the appointment of our new Bishop

Shepherding God
you reveal your way of unfailing love
in the image of the Good Shepherd
who seeks the lost,
shows compassion
knows and is known by the sheep
and lays down his life for them.
We your people of Maitland-Newcastle
are without a bishop to shepherd us.
We ask that your Holy Spirit
who moves through this great south land,
inspire the choice of our new Bishop,
empower his 'yes'
and open our hearts in hospitality and love.
We make this prayer through Christ our Lord, Amen.
Our Lady of Perpetual Help **pray for us**
Mary MacKillop of the Cross **pray for us.**

Seeking Accommodation: Alexander Francis, a teacher from Dubbo, frequently visits Forster and enjoys coming to the Holy Name Church for Mass. He is seeking a room to rent for his next visit from 23rd Sep—8th Oct. He is 68 yrs old and would enjoy cooking and gardening for anyone who was able to put him up in accommodation. If you have a room to offer him please contact him on his mobile 0402 963 063.

Youth Mental Health First Aid

28th and 29th September 2022 (Port Macquarie)

Youth Mental Health First Aid is a 14-hour course that teaches adults how to provide initial support to adolescents who are developing a mental health problem, are experiencing an ongoing mental health problem/mental illness or are experiencing a mental health crisis. The course provides current statistics and information about the following mental illnesses: depression, anxiety problems, eating disorders, psychosis and substance use problems. The course also provides information in how to support and assist young people with a number of mental health crises.

More information go to <https://mhfa.com.au/>

Youth Mental Health First Aid Registration: <https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/youth-mental-health-first-aid-course-port-macquarie-tickets-411142647727>

PARISH MOBILE NUMBER

Please note our new preferred phone contact for the parish office
0475 242 695



Parish Christmas Dinner
Wed 21st Dec. Mass at 5.30pm followed by dinner. Fundraising raffle/silent auction on the night. Please donate any items for the auction to the parish office.

Saints and Feasts

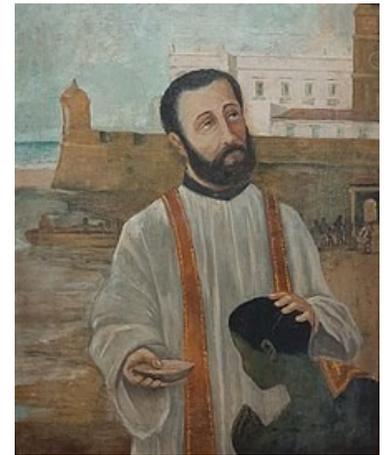
3RD SEPTEMBER Gregory the Great was born in Rome in 540 AD. He used his own money to establish monasteries in Rome and Sicily, and eventually became a monk himself at the age of 35. In 590 AD, he became the first monk to be elected pope and the first pope to take the name Gregory. He was known as a great statesman and is accounted the fourth of the great latin doctors of the church. His influence on church music gave rise to plainsong becoming known as Gregorian chant. Gregory the Great was the father of the medieval papacy, and he was instrumental in helping Western Europe rise from the ashes of the fallen Roman Empire. He referred to himself as “the servant of the servants of God”, a term which the popes have used ever since.

9TH SEPTEMBER St Peter Claver was born in Spain in 1581 AD. After studying at the University of Barcelona, he became a Jesuit at the age of 20. St Peter was influenced by St Alphonsus Rodriguez to become a missionary in the Americas, where he ministered both physically and spiritually to the African slaves. He spent the next 40 years working for the humane treatment of slaves on plantations, and he reportedly converted some 300,000 African slaves to Christianity. Within the Spanish community living in America, St Peter organised charitable societies, similar to those organised by St Vincent de Paul across Europe. He said of the slaves, “We must speak to them with our hands by giving, before we try to speak to them with our lips.”



Miniature of Gregory the Great writing, in a 12th-century copy of his Dialogues, British Library, London.

Portrait of St. Peter Claver in the museum Palace of Inquisition, Cartagena, Colombia



THE LATEST NEWS FROM OUR SAFEGUARDING PROMOTERS – 4 Sep 22

The **Promoters of Safeguarding** continue to endorse a culture of safeguarding within the Parish. To this end, your attention is drawn to **National Child Protection Week 2022**. Child Protection Week commences this weekend, and coincides with Sunday, September 04, being Father’s Day.

National Child Protection Week 2022 will continue to embrace the overarching message that ‘Every child, in every community, needs a fair go’. In particular, this year shines a light on children growing up **safe and supported**. NAPCAN has released a number of brochures to assist communities in achieving this – search online for NAPCAN Brochures for Download - NAPCAN or access <https://www.napcan.org.au/napcan-brochures/>

Brochure topics include:

- It’s not okay to shake babies
- Keeping children safe from sexual abuse
- Domestic violence hurts children too!
- Listening to children
- Being a dad
- When a child feels sad
- Alternatives to smacking
- Listening to babies
- Listening to young people
- The importance of play
- **30 ways to boost a child’s confidence**
- Use words that help not hurt
- Ways to support and encourage a child’s right to speak and be heard.

The brochure highlighted above focuses on how to improve the confidence of a child/young adult and thus enhance their resilience following the uncertainties, disruptions and isolation resulting from 2 years of Covid-19 turmoil. In 4 sections, this brochure addresses boosting the confidence (1) toddlers, (2) pre-schoolers, (3) school children, and (4) teenagers.

When children feel confident and secure, they’re more likely to succeed in school and to achieve personal goals. As they get older, they learn to confront problems and resist peer pressure. More importantly, having a positive self-image helps a child feel happy and capable of maintaining personal relationships. From the day they are born, children learn by watching and copying adults. They need parents to spend time with them, give them lots of encouragement, and show them how to be confident.

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS:

Recently deceased: Suzanne Jane Cross, Anthony Dorer, Warren Provost & Terry Kerr

Anniversaries: Stevie Jones

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:

Joe Camilleri, Reginald Cross, Joseph Barnett, Jane Michie & Lyn Denney

People will remain on the prayers for the sick for 4 weeks. You can resubmit names as needed.



Twenty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time Year C

Sunday 04 Sep 2022

Fr. Peter: Dear Brothers and Sisters, as followers of Christ, let us bring our intentions before the Lord.

1. Reader: That Pope Francis, all bishops and clergy continue to live discipleship. In faith we pray:

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

2. Reader: That the newly appointed cardinals will be blessed in their ministry. In faith we pray:

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

3. Reader: That a new Bishop will soon be appointed to our diocese. In faith we pray:

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

4. Reader: That our parish community may walk in the way of Christ. In faith we pray:

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

5. Reader: That nations will send aid to Pakistan in light of the flooding in that nation. In faith we pray:

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

6. Reader: That there will be an end to war in Ukraine, and all war torn areas. In faith we pray:

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

7. Reader: That peace may reign as we acknowledge the 83rd anniversary of the start of World War 2. In faith we pray:

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

8. Reader: That we may reject discrimination in all its forms and become one in Christ. In faith we pray:

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

9. Reader: That fathers will be blessed by God for the love and care they give to their families. In faith we pray:

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

10. Reader: That all who are sick, suffering, or are afflicted will find strength in the Lord. In faith we pray:

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

11. Reader: That those who have died will live forever in the light of Christ, especially Suzanne Jane Cross, Anthony Dorer, Warren Provost & Terry Kerr who have died recently and Stevie Jones whose anniversary occurs at this time.

In faith we pray:

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Fr. Peter: Loving Father, you teach us to give up all we have and follow you. Hear our prayers today, and help us carry our cross in strength as disciples of Jesus. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

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A Prayer For Those Unable To Receive Holy Communion

My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament. I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.

Sunday 04 Sep 2022
Twenty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time Year C

Entrance Antiphon

Ps 118:137, 124

You are just, O Lord, and your judgement is right;
treat your servant in accord with your merciful love.

First Reading

Wis 9:13-18

A reading from the book of Wisdom

What man can know the intentions of God?

Who can divine the will of the Lord?

The reasonings of mortals are unsure and our intentions unstable; for a perishable body presses down the soul, and this tent of clay weighs down the teeming mind. It is hard enough for us to work out what is on earth, laborious to know what lies within our reach; who, then, can discover what is in the heavens?

As for your intention, who could have learnt it, had you not granted Wisdom and sent your holy spirit from above?

Thus have the paths of those on earth been straightened and men been taught what pleases you, and saved, by Wisdom.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 89:3-6. 12-14. 17. R. v.1

(R.) In every age, O Lord, you have been our refuge.

1. You turn men back into dust and say: 'Go back, sons of men.' To your eyes a thousand years are like yesterday, come and gone, no more than a watch in the night. (R.)

2. You sweep men away like a dream, like grass which springs up in the morning. In the morning it springs up and flowers: by evening it withers and fades. (R.)

3. Make us know the shortness of our life that we may gain wisdom of heart. Lord, relent! Is your anger for ever? Show pity to your servants. (R.)

4. In the morning, fill us with your love; we shall exult and rejoice all our days. Let the favour of the Lord be upon us: give success to the work of our hands. (R.)

Second Reading

Phlm 9-10, 12-17

A reading from the letter of St Paul to Philemon

This is Paul writing, an old man now and, what is more, still a prisoner of Christ Jesus. I am appealing to you for a child of mine, whose father I became while wearing these chains: I mean Onesimus. I am sending him back to you, and with him – I could say – a part of my own self. I should have liked to keep him with me; he could have been a substitute for you, to help me while I am in the chains that the Good News has brought me. However, I did not want to do anything without your consent; it would have been forcing your act of kindness, which should be spontaneous. I know you have been deprived of Onesimus for a time, but it was only so that you could have him back for ever, not as a slave any more, but something much better than a slave, a

dear brother; especially dear to me, but how much more to you, as a blood-brother as well as a brother in the Lord. So if all that we have in common means anything to you, welcome him as you would me.

Gospel Acclamation

Ps 118:135

Alleluia, alleluia!

Let your face shine on your servant, and teach me your laws.

Alleluia!

Gospel

Lk 14:25-33

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

Great crowds accompanied Jesus on his way and he turned and spoke to them. 'If any man comes to me without hating his father, mother, wife, children, brothers, sisters, yes and his own life too, he cannot be my disciple. Anyone who does not carry his cross and come after me cannot be my disciple.

'And indeed, which of you here, intending to build a tower, would not first sit down and work out the cost to see if he had enough to complete it? Otherwise, if he laid the foundation and then found himself unable to finish the work, the onlookers would all start making fun of him and saying, "Here is a man who started to build and was unable to finish." Or again, what king marching to war against another king would not first sit down and consider whether with ten thousand men he could stand up to the other who advanced against him with twenty thousand? If not, then while the other king was still a long way off, he would send envoys to sue for peace. So in the same way, none of you can be my disciple unless he gives up all his possessions.'

Communion Antiphon

Cf. Ps 41:2-3

Like the deer that yearns for running streams, so my soul is yearning for you, my God; my soul is thirsting for God, the living God.

Readings for Next Week 10/11 September

First Reading

Ex 32:7-11. 13-14 Moses intercedes for Israel and diverts the wrath of God.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 50:3-4. 12-13. 17. 19. R. Lk 15:18 (R.) I will rise and go to my father.

Second Reading

1 Tm 1:12-17 The mercy Paul has received is a sign for all.

Gospel Acclamation

2 Cor 5:19 Alleluia, alleluia! God was in Christ, to reconcile the world to himself; and the Good News of reconciliation he has entrusted to us. Alleluia!

Gospel

Lk 15:1-32 Parable of the prodigal son.

THE ORDER OF MASS

THE INTRODUCTORY RITES

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen. either:

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And with your spirit.** or:

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. **And with your spirit.** or:

The Lord be with you. **And with your spirit.**

PENITENTIAL ACT

Brethren (brothers and sisters), let us acknowledge our sins, and so prepare ourselves to celebrate the sacred mysteries. either:

I confess to almighty God and to you, my brothers and sisters, that I have greatly sinned, in my thoughts and in my words, in what I have done and in what I have failed to do, through my fault, through my fault, (striking the breast) through my most grievous fault; therefore I ask blessed Mary ever-Virgin, all the Angels and Saints, and you, my brothers and sisters, to pray for me to the Lord our God.

May almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us our sins, and bring us to everlasting life. **Amen.** or:

Have mercy on us, O Lord.

For we have sinned against you.

Show us, O Lord, your mercy.

And grant us your salvation.

May almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us our sins, and bring us to everlasting life. **Amen.** or:

You were sent to heal the contrite of heart:

P: Lord, have mercy or: **P:** Kyrie, eleison.

R: Lord, have mercy or: **R:** Kyrie, eleison.

You came to call sinners:

P: Christ have mercy or: **P:** Christe, eleison.

R: Christ have mercy or: **R:** Christe, eleison.

You are seated at the right hand of the Father to intercede for us:

P: Lord, have mercy or: **P:** Kyrie, eleison.

R: Lord, have mercy or: **R:** Kyrie, eleison.

May almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us our sins, and bring us to everlasting life. **Amen.**

The Kyrie follows, unless it has occurred in the Penitential Act. either:

P: Lord, have mercy. **R:** Lord, have mercy.

P: Christ, have mercy. **R:** Christ, have mercy.

P: Lord, have mercy. **R:** Lord, have mercy.

or:

P: Kyrie, eleison.

R: Kyrie, eleison.

P: Christe, eleison.

R: Christe, eleison.

P: Kyrie, eleison.

R: Kyrie, eleison.

Gloria (when said)

Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to people of good will. We praise you, we bless you, we adore you, we glorify you, we give you thanks for your great glory, Lord God, heavenly King, O God, almighty Father. Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son, Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us; you take away the sins of the world, receive our prayer; you are seated at the right hand of the Father, have mercy on us. For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

Let us pray. At the end of the Collect, the people acclaim: **Amen.**

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

At the end of the reading:

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

At the Gospel:

The Lord be with you. **And with your spirit.**

A reading from the holy Gospel according to N.

Glorify to you, O Lord.

At the end of the Gospel:

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

THE NICENE CREED

I believe in one God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible. I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ, the Only Begotten Son of God, born of the Father before all ages. God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father; through him all things were made. For us men and for our salvation he came down from heaven, (all bow) and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary, and became man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate, he suffered death and was buried, and rose again on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come

again in glory to judge the living and the dead and his kingdom will have no end. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church. I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty, Creator of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, (all bow) born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried; he descended into hell; on the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty; from there he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting. Amen.

THE LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

Pray, brethren ... the almighty Father.

May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands for the praise and glory of His name, for our good and the good of all His holy Church.

At the end of the prayer, the people acclaim:
Amen.

THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

The Lord be with you. **And with your spirit.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them up to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right and just.**

After the Preface

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of hosts. Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

The mystery of faith. either:

We proclaim your Death, O Lord, and profess your Resurrection until you come again. or:

When we eat this Bread and drink this Cup, we proclaim your Death, O Lord, until you come again. or:

**Save us, Saviour of the world,
for by your Cross and Resurrection
you have set us free.**

Through him, and with him, ... for ever and ever.
Amen.

THE COMMUNION RITE

At the Saviour's command and formed by divine teaching, we dare to say:

Our Father, who art in heaven...

Deliver us, Lord, we pray, from every evil...

For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours now and forever.

Lord Jesus Christ, who said to your Apostles...

Who live and reign for ever and ever.

Amen.

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

And with your spirit.

Let us offer each other the sign of peace.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us. (X2)

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, grant us peace.

Behold the Lamb of God, behold him who takes away the sins of the world. Blessed are those called to the supper of the Lamb.

Lord, I am not worthy that you should enter under my roof, but only say the word and my soul shall be healed.

The Body of Christ. **Amen.**

The Blood of Christ. **Amen.**

Let us pray. At the end of the prayer, the people acclaim:
Amen.

THE CONCLUDING RITES

The Lord be with you. **And with your spirit.**

May almighty God bless you, the Father, and the † Son, and the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

either:

Go forth, the Mass is ended. or:

Go and announce the Gospel of the Lord. or:

Go in peace, glorifying the Lord by your Life. or:

Go in peace.

Thanks be to God.

© 2019 design by Rev Fr Peter Street. Text from the Roman Missal 2011.



Sunday 4 Sep 2022
SCRIPTURE COMMENTARY by Brendan Byrne SJ

Not the easiest of readings today. The First Reading, from the Book of Wisdom (9:13-18), reflects the pessimism about the human body prevalent in some strains of Hellenistic Judaism. 'A perishable body presses down the soul ...' Such sentiments found their way into Christian spirituality and had a long life there, despite Christianity's sense of God's embrace of the material in the Incarnation. A more balanced spirituality will recognise that it is not the body as such but rather selfishness that 'presses down the soul', preventing release of the spirit. More on target is the text's scepticism about the ability of the human intellect, unaided, to know the mind of God. Such knowledge, essential for our salvation, is the gift of God. It comes in the form of Wisdom, imaged here as a kind of friendly companion that God sends among human beings for their instruction.

The Gospel, Luke 14:25-33, contains some of the most demanding utterances attributed to Jesus in the New Testament. Certainly, the concluding statement, 'None of you can be my disciple unless he or she gives up all possessions', is the most extreme statement on renunciation of wealth in the Gospel of Luke. By prefacing the Gospel sequence and the warnings it contains with the passage from Wisdom the Lectionary seems to want to assert: 'These extreme utterances of Jesus are nonsense to reason alone. They can only be grasped and accepted by those imbued with divine Wisdom, the gift of God.' As Paul says concerning the 'word of the cross' in 1 Cor 1:21-25; 2:14-15, such things are foolishness to the person operating purely on the rational level.

In a sense, what Jesus is doing in the Gospel is simply being honest with his disciples. He foresees that those who follow him will inevitably become caught up in the suffering and death he now sees to lie ahead of him. It is no kindness to followers to keep them in ignorance of this. He must prick any illusions they have about where following him might lead.

He does so, initially, in the strong language about 'hating' one's 'father, mother, wife, children, etc'. In this kind of language we must see a Semitic idiom operative. It is not a matter of literally coming to 'hate' one's family members in the way the English expression might suggest. Semitic languages, by and large, do not have a word for 'prefer'. When a person prefers one thing over

another, he or she is said to 'love' one (the thing 'preferred') and 'hate' the other. 'Hate', then, is simply an expression of rejecting something (possibly something quite good in itself) in favour of something considered more desirable. While it would be wrong to water down the strength of Jesus' prophetic utterance, what he is saying, then, is that family allegiances – so strong in the Palestinian culture of Jesus – have to take second place as far as following him is concerned. Those who adopt his mission, his commitments, and his way of life will inevitably cause some pain and sacrifice to their loved ones, who perhaps have other plans for them.

Hence the need to count the cost – a process Jesus illustrates with the two parables that follow. The force of the one about the builder of the tower derives very much from the sense of societal shame that was so strong in the Palestinian culture of Jesus' day. The one about the king marching out to war draws on a mathematical calculation valid in the strategy of any age. The early Church may have particularly related these parables to the situation of persecution in which it so often found itself.

Christianity would hardly have survived beyond the first couple of generations if everyone had adopted the very radical concluding challenge about the need for a would-be disciple to give up 'all possessions'. The challenge has to be heard in the context of the invitation to the Kingdom central to Jesus' message. In comparison with this supreme good the losses entailed in the present conditions of discipleship find some proportion. It was consciousness of such divine generosity that led saints such as Francis of Assisi to embrace radical poverty so wholeheartedly.

St Paul's message to Philemon in the Second Reading, Philemon 9-10, 12-17, is a masterpiece of subtle persuasion in the name of the Gospel. Rather than simply commanding Philemon to release his runaway slave, Paul seeks to have him look upon Onesimus (who has since become a believer) in an entirely new way: not now as a slave, but as a brother in the Lord. It is from this new way of seeing a person that the consequences for Onesimus' acceptance and freedom should flow. As so often in the New Testament, right action flows from conversion of mind and heart.

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God's Salvation: Law and Grace- THE MORAL LAW

415. What is the moral law? The moral law is a work of divine Wisdom. It prescribes the ways and the rules of conduct that lead to the promised beatitude and it forbids the ways that turn away from God.

416. In what does the natural moral law consist? The natural law which is inscribed by the Creator on the heart of every person consists in a participation in the wisdom and the goodness of God. It expresses that original moral sense which enables one to discern by reason the good and the bad. It is universal and immutable and determines the basis of the duties and fundamental rights of the person as well as those of the human community and civil law.

417. Is such a law perceived by everyone? Because of sin the natural law is not always perceived nor is it recognized by everyone with equal clarity and immediacy.

For this reason God "wrote on the tables of the Law what men did not read in their hearts." (Saint Augustine)

418. What is the relationship between the natural law and the Old Law? The Old Law is the first stage of revealed Law. It expresses many truths naturally accessible to reason and which are thus affirmed and authenticated in the covenant of salvation. Its moral prescriptions, which are summed up in the Ten Commandments of the Decalogue, lay the foundations of the human voca-

tion, prohibit what is contrary to the love of God and neighbor, and prescribe what is essential to it.

419. What place does the Old Law have in the plan of salvation? The Old Law permitted one to know many truths which are accessible to reason, showed what must or must not be done and, above all, like a wise tutor, prepared and disposed one for conversion and for the acceptance of the Gospel. However, while being holy, spiritual, and good, the Old Law was still imperfect because in itself it did not give the strength and the grace of the Spirit for its observance.

420. What is the New Law or the Law of the Gospel? The New Law or the Law of the Gospel, proclaimed and fulfilled by Christ, is the fullness and completion of the divine law, natural and revealed. It is summed up in the commandment to love God and neighbor and to love one another as Christ loved us. It is also an interior reality: the grace of the Holy Spirit which makes possible such love. It is "the law of freedom" (Galatians 1:25) because it inclines us to act spontaneously by the prompting of charity.

"The New Law is mainly the same grace of the Holy Spirit which is given to believers in Christ." (Saint Thomas Aquinas)

421. Where does one find the New Law?

The New Law is found in the entire life and preaching of Christ and in the moral catechesis of the apostles. The Sermon on the Mount is its principal expression.

**PASTORAL VISIT OF THE HOLY FATHER FRANCIS
TO L'AQUILA
ANGELUS**

**Forecourt of the Basilica of Saint Mary in Collemaggio
Sunday, 28 August 2022**

Dear brothers and sisters!

At the end of this celebration, we turn to the Virgin Mary with the Angelus prayer.

Before, however, I would like to greet all of you who have participated, including all those who had to do so from a distance, at home, or in hospital, or in prison. I thank the civil authorities for their presence and for the effort put into organizing this. I cordially thank the Cardinal Archbishop and the other Bishops, priests, consecrated men and women, families, the choir and all the volunteers, as well as law enforcement and security forces.

In this place that suffered a harsh calamity, I want to assure the people of Pakistan, hit by floods of disastrous proportions, of my nearness. I pray for the numerous victims, for the wounded and those forced from their homes, and that international solidarity might be prompt and generous.

And now let us invoke Our Lady so that, as I said at the end of my homily, she might obtain pardon and peace for the entire world. Let us pray for the people of Ukraine and for all those who suffer because of war. May the God of peace revive a human and Christian sense of pity and mercy in the hearts of the leaders of nations. Mary, Mother of Mercy and Queen of Peace, pray for us!

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The Sign of The Cross



1. With your right hand, touch your forehead and pray, "In the name of The Father."



2. Touch the center of your chest and pray, "and of The Son,"



3. Touch your left shoulder and pray, "and of The Holy..."



4. Touch your right shoulder and pray, "Spirit, Amen."



**This is Sister
Teresa known for
her high
intelligence.**

**Better known as
Nun the wiser** 🤔

CatholicCare Christmas Hamper Drive 2022

WE CAN ONLY GIVE WHAT WE RECEIVE



Help us help those in need this Christmas.

CatholicCare is hoping to distribute much needed hampers through our Food Programs across the Hunter-Manning this Christmas, and we need your support!

You can help by donating any of the items listed below:

- Tins of ham
- Fruit mince pies or Christmas puddings
- Fruit juice or tins of stewed fruit
- Jams, cranberry or apple sauce
- Reusable Christmas shopping bags
- Cereal, long life milk or custard
- Sweet or savory biscuits
- Tins of vegetables:
- baby potatoes, beetroot, corn, peas or tomatoes
- Tea bags, coffee, hot chocolate, sugar
- Chocolates, lollies or pancake mix.



Drop off locations and contact numbers:

Mayfield	58 Church Street	4979 1339
Taree	32-34 Pulteney Street	6539 5900
Forster	33 Lake Street	6554 6304

Financial donations are also welcome!

Each hamper costs \$50, but any amount will make a difference.

Please visit catholiccare.org.au/donate

National Child Protection Week 4–11 Sep 2022

REGISTER FOR INSPIRING WEBINARS!

This year's National Child Protection Week webinar series has been carefully designed to support the theme and shine a light on creating safe and supported communities for children.

This year's week-long webinar series includes:

- **Mon @10am** National Child Protection Week launch
- **Mon @ 2pm** Safe and Supported: how is Australia coming together at the national level to protect our children?
- **Tues @ 10.30am** How deep connection to culture is keeping children safe and supported
- **Wed @ 1pm** Supporting young parents with an out-of-home care experience
- **Thu @ 10.30** Are Aussie kids OK?
- **Fri @ 10.30am** Creating a 'one-stop shop' for the needs of families: Co-design, evaluation & sustaining change

For more information or to register for these webinars go to <https://www.napcan.org.au/final-official-program-webinars-events-2022/>



KEEPING CHILDREN SAFE AND WELL IS EVERYBODY'S BUSINESS

Together we can
help every child thrive

We can all...

...speak up if we see something that is
not safe for children

...talk respectfully with children and value
and act on their ideas

...help children thrive by supporting
families

...create places where children feel
safe to live, play and learn

<https://www.napcan.org.au/ncpw-theme/>



CONFIRMATION CEREMONY 2022

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN THE DIOCESE AND SURROUNDS...

Retreat with Fr Hugh Thomas and Fr Tony Alex

"You will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you" will be presented by Fr Hugh Thomas CSsR and Fr Tony Alex MGL from Friday 21 October to Sunday 23 October at the St Clement's Retreat Centre.

Fr Hugh has been active in Charismatic Renewal since 1973 and has led many retreats and Life in the Spirit Seminars in several countries, including the USA. Fr Tony is a member of the Missionaries of God's Love (MLG). He is currently at the MGL Sydney Mission.

A powerful experience for people new to Charismatic Renewal, which Pope Francis calls "a current of grace" for the Church of today. A time for fresh anointing and renewal for old timers as well as younger people. The retreat will include prayer ministry to receive healing and the gifts of the Holy Spirit.

The retreat formally begins with the first session at 7.30 pm on Friday night (21 October). However there will be a Mass at 5pm and a meal at 6pm for those who can make it earlier (all included in the price). The retreat finishes after lunch on Sunday 23 October (about 1.30 pm).

If you need any more information, email Fr Hugh on: frhughthomas40@gmail.com Cost: Ensuite Room \$350, or Shared facilities \$300

Book through St Clement's Retreat Centre, Kalangan Rd, Galong NSW,

Phone no: 026805222

Art and Spirituality Workshop

An art and spirituality workshop will be held on 15 September at St Joseph's Community Centre, Kilaben Bay from 9am to 3pm. This workshop will provide an opportunity to awaken the Spirit through the beauty of God's creation, prayer, and reflection.

Creation of art provides an opportunity for a deepening awareness of oneself and the world and can act as a catalyst for evoking the Spirit.

Art is a means to see-to-re-search and find the living meaning of what it means to open the heart. Everyone has the ability to create art, but in order for it to be theological, the artist needs to explore ways that it makes sense of faith. Opening the heart through art involves making meaning through the creation, then reflecting on the art itself and the unfolding the moment-to-

moment direct experience of the process.

Participants will engage in art making experiences which will nourish their faith.

Cost: \$25

To register:

<https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/art-and-spirituality-workshop-tickets-359269162737>

For further information contact Rose McAllister on rose.mcallister@mn.catholic.org.au

Inner Healing and Growth Retreat

Join the Divine Retreat Centre for their Inner Healing and Growth Retreat from Friday 9 to Sunday 11 September. For more info or bookings, please contact 0468 486 782 or email drcretreatgo@gmail.com

St Faustina's First class relic
is kept for public veneration at the Divine Retreat Centre

"Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest."
Matthew 11:28

SEPTEMBER 2022

- 2nd (Friday)** 1ST FRIDAY HEALING SERVICE, CHATSWOOD
Our Lady of Dolours Catholic Church, 94 Archer St, Chatswood NSW 2067, Tel 02 9410 9000
6:30pm - 8:30pm
- 3rd (Saturday)** ONE DAY MALAYALAM RETREAT
1:00am - 2:30pm
DIVINE YOUTH MINISTRY,
5.00pm to 7.30pm, for Young Adults ages 18+
For more details pls call Melinda Rego on 0423786768
- 9th-11th (Fri-Sun)** INNER HEALING GROWTH RETREAT (LIVE-IN)
with Fr. Roni George and Fr. Joby George
Friday 5:30pm - Sunday 4:00pm BOOKING: 04 6848 6782
- 19th (Monday)** SPIRITUAL RETREAT AT ST. PATRICK WALLSEND
7:00pm - 9:00pm, 11 Macquarie St, WallSEND 2287
- 25th (Sunday)** FEAST OF ST VINCENT DE PAUL
ONE DAY PILGRIMAGE (LAST SUNDAY RETREAT)
with Fr. Roni George and Fr. Joby George, 9:00am - 4:00pm,
• Praise and Worship • Preaching The Word • Eucharistic Adoration • Holy Mass
LUNCH WILL BE PROVIDED

KID'S MINISTRY FOR CHILDREN AGED BETWEEN 5 - 8 YEARS
CHILDREN'S MINISTRY FOR CHILDREN AGED BETWEEN 9 - 12 YEARS
TEENAGER'S MINISTRY FOR TEENAGERS AGED BETWEEN 13 - 17 YEARS

DIVINE RETREAT CENTRE
160 Hensons Road, Somersby, SYDNEY-NSW 2250,
Tel: 02 4372 1598, 04 6848 6782, email drcsydney@gmail.com
• www.divineretreatcentre.org • www.facebook.com/divineretreatcentersomersby

The Divine Retreat Centre promotes the safety and protection of children and other vulnerable persons in its care.



**NATIONAL
CHILD PROTECTION
WEEK 2022**

4-10 SEPTEMBER

View message and resources from the Office of Safeguarding
<https://officeofsafeguarding.org.au/national-child-protection-week/>

**EVERY CHILD
IN EVERY COMMUNITY
NEEDS A FAIR GO**



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 02 6554 6401

CATHOLIC CARE

Phone: 02 6539 5900 for services provided in Forster



PARISH TEAM

Fr Peter Street - Parish Priest
Peter.street@mn.catholic.org.au
Emergency Contact: 0458 327 219
(Please only calls to this phone no texts)

Danielle Kingdom
Admin Assistant
danielle.kingdom@mn.catholic.org.au

Office Hours:
Mon 11am-3.30pm, Tue-Fri 9.00am- 3.30pm
Phone: 0475 242 695

Website:
www.forstertuncurrycatholic.org.au

Follow us on facebook:
@catholicparishofforstertuncurry

Feedback, complaints or concerns can be communicated directly to the Parish Office, through our website (Contact Us) or if the concern is relating to the safety of a child, contact the Office of Safeguarding: 02 4979 1390 childprotection@mn.catholic.org.au

COMMUNITY KITCHEN

Serving meals to the community from the Parish Hall **Mon Tue, Wed & Thurs 12pm-1pm**

For volunteer opportunities contact Michelle Robinson: 0447 184 917

PARISH GROUPS

Christian Meditation

Forster Tues 9.30am
Greg 0427 918 568
Hallidays Point Wed 10am
John 0417 249 466

Gardening Group

3rd Monday of the month, 8am
Church grounds.
Parish Office 02 6554 6401

Family and Friends Group

Meets monthly, contact Carol and Terry Pearson on 0408768729.

Singing Practice

Ken Heffernan 02 6554 6401
(see parish timetable)

Holy Hour

Tues 3.30pm in the Church

Finance Council

3rd Wednesday of the month,
5.30pm Meeting Room

Pastoral Council

1st Thursday of the month, 6.00pm
Meeting Room

Novena to our Lady of Perpetual Help and Rosary

Wed 11.00am in the Church
Shiony 0411 493 086
Novena Benediction on the 1st
Wednesday of the month.

Secular Franciscan Fraternity

4th Sunday of the month 9.30am
Barbara Dolahenty 0408 248 018

The above groups are all subject to Covid-19 restrictions, please enquire before attending.



SUNDAY MASS TIMES

Sat 5.00pm, Sun. 8.00am & 10.00am

RECONCILIATION

4.00pm Saturday and during Holy Hour

YOUTH MASS

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

AGED CARE MASSES (Subject to change)

GLAICA: **1st Tues 10.30am**
Estia Tuncurry: **2nd Tues 10.30am**
Estia Forster: **3rd Tues 10.00am**



CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

Holy Name Catholic School K-6

41 Lake Street, Forster
Ph: 02 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: 02 6552 3300
E: Admin@tareesc.catholic.edu.au

W: www.tareesc.catholic.edu.au
Principal: Peter Nicholls

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