



# Bridgeside Bulletin



*The weekly Bulletin of the Catholic Parish of Forster Tuncurry*

*"Unity in Christ"*

*Holy Name of Jesus Church, 31 Lake Street, Forster 2428 NSW*

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

SUNDAY 1 JANUARY 2023, SOLEMNITY OF MARY, THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD

Dear Brothers and Sisters.

Happy New Year! I cannot believe 2022 went as fast as it did. It has seemed to me that the couple of years since the pandemic started, have gone rather fast. I hope time can slow down soon, that said, given the fact that Hot Cross Buns are already for sale, I shan't hold my breath. For those who do buy them I draw your attention to the times for the Sacrament of Confession.

Please remember that we are still in the Christmas Season. The season ends with Evening Prayer on the day of the Epiphany. Let us keep the celebration going for the whole time. Despite what shopping centers say.

We have all been, I think, somewhat concerned about the health of His Holiness the Pope Emeritus. I urge each and every one of you to keep him in your prayers, in line with the request from the Holy Father. When the time comes, there will be opportunities to give thanks to God for the life and ministry of Benedict the 16<sup>th</sup> and to pray for the eternal repose of his soul.

This year 2023 sees us, as a parish, enter into a process of retreats leading to a Parish Pastoral Assembly in November. This assembly will be to ratify a Parish Pastoral Plan, which will guide us as we grow as a parish. It is my hope that each and every parishioner who can, is willing to take part in this process. Our commitment to the parish must be more than simply coming to Mass each week, that this is a good thing goes without saying. However, we need to move from a commitment to the "present" of the parish, to a commitment to its "future"; from "maintenance" to "mission", if you will. It is worth noting, that according to the NCLS the average age of those attending Mass in this parish is 76. If we do not start encouraging families to Mass, what will the future of this parish be in ten years' time? If we, as a parish fail to spread the message of Jesus to those we encounter; if we fail to grow, well, there is only one trajectory if things remain unchanged! So throughout the retreat and assembly process I ask what our commitment to the parish is. What do we see as the future of the parish, where do we want it to be in 12 months, 3 years, 5 years, and indeed 10 years' time? As part of this process there will be opportunities throughout the year and years ahead to grow our knowledge of the faith. I urge each and every one to take up these opportunities. If we are to spread the faith, we need to know it. I urge everyone to consider the RCIA formation that will soon be offered. If we are to invite people to join the Church we all need to know how we will bring them into the Church and we all need to be singing from the same song sheet, so to speak.

As I have said previously, I do not mind complaints or criticisms, however, if letters (or Christmas cards) with these complaints or criticisms arrive unsigned, they will be ignored. Come and see me face to face, or at the very least, please sign the letter (or Christmas card) of complaint.

With love.

Fr Peter.

## Parish Timetable

<b>Mon</b> 2 JAN	9am Counters– Team 8
<b>Tue</b> 3 JAN	9.30am Christian Meditation 12pm Community Kitchen 4.30pm Mass
<b>Wed</b> 4 JAN	9.30am Mass 12pm Community Kitchen
<b>Thu</b> 5 JAN	9.30am Mass 12pm Community Kitchen
<b>Fri</b> 6 JAN	9.30am Mass
<b>Sat</b> 7 JAN	9.30am Mass 4pm Confession 5pm Vigil Mass
<b>Sun</b> 8 JAN	8am Mass 10am Mass

## Parish Notices

- **The Parish Office will be closed Mon 2nd Jan**
- Novena to Our Lady of Perpetual Help will resume on Wed 11th Jan.
- **Holy Name of Jesus Feast Day is on the 3rd January. We invite everyone to attend the Mass at 4.30pm.**

### Thank you From The Parish Office

Thank you for all the cards and gifts we both received over Christmas. The love and kindness shown by the people of our parish is heart-warming. We wish each and everyone a Merry Christmas and a happy and prosperous New Year. Many blessings for 2023.

Fr Peter and Danielle.

### Church Collection Procedure

Church collections occur immediately after the Universal prayers. Both the 1st and 2nd collection occur at the same time. The **blue bag is for the 1st collection**, (the Parish collection, for planned giving envelopes and donations to assist with the running of the parish). The blue bag is handed out first, and when this bag is about 3 rows in the red bag is handed out. **The red bag is for the second collection**, (for the care of the clergy).

### DOCUMENTS OF THE SECOND VATICAN COUNCIL

Key documents: **Sacrosanctum Concilium, Lumen gentium, Dei verbum, Gaudium et spes.**

In the coming weeks we will include a link to each of these documents in the parish bulletin. An opportunity to meet and discuss these documents will be available for those who are interested. Please get in touch with the parish office if you would like the meeting details.

## 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.**

### Become an SRE volunteer

Did you know that some 50% of Catholic children are in state schools? Have you ever thought about becoming a Special Religious Educator? This could be an opportunity for you to meet new people, discover new friendships and build quality relationships whilst mastering skills and confidence in Catechetics.

You can make a difference in the schools within your parish! For people of faith, knowing you are participating in Christ's call to share the Good News to all is a great source of joy and meaning. If you would like to learn more about how you can help, please contact the Parish Office 0475 242 695.

## OUR JOURNEY

Holy Name Parish Forster-Tuncurry is formulating a Parish Pastoral Plan to renew our commitment to be the Light of Christ in our community and to build on the services that are already offered by our Parish.

With this in mind we will be holding a Parish Pastoral Assembly on 25th November 2023. The Day will be preceded throughout the year by a series of one day Retreats, preparing us for the Assembly.

All parishioners are encouraged to join us on this exciting Journey as we continue to grow into the Church Christ wants us to be.

**The days to enter into your calendars are:-**

**4<sup>h</sup> March**-The Journey With-In

**27<sup>th</sup> May**-The Journey With Christ

**26<sup>th</sup> August** - The Journey With Others

**25<sup>th</sup> November**- Pastoral Assembly Day

More details will be announced as the days grow closer but it is anticipated each Retreat Day will begin with 9.30am Mass and conclude about 4pm.

**Sunday 01 Jan 2023**  
**Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God**

**Entrance Antiphon**

Hail, Holy Mother, who gave birth to the King, who rules heaven and earth for ever.

**First Reading**

*Nm 6:22-27*

A reading from the book of Numbers

The Lord spoke to Moses and said, 'Say this to Aaron and his sons: "This is how you are to bless the sons of Israel. You shall say to them: May the Lord bless you and keep you. May the Lord let his face shine on you and be gracious to you. May the Lord uncover his face to you and bring you peace." This is how they are to call down my name on the sons of Israel, and I will bless them.'

**Responsorial Psalm**

*Ps 66:2-3. 5. 6. 8. R. v.2*

(R.) May God bless us in his mercy.

1. God, be gracious and bless us and let your face shed its light upon us. So will your ways be known upon earth and all nations learn your saving help. (R.)

2. Let the nations be glad and exult for you rule the world with justice. With fairness you rule the peoples. You guide the nations on earth. (R.)

3. Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you. May God still give us his blessing till the ends of the earth revere him. (R.)

**Second Reading**

*Gal 4:4-7*

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Galatians

When the appointed time came, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born a subject of the Law, to redeem the subjects of the Law and to enable us to be adopted as sons. The proof that you are sons is that God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts: the Spirit that cries, 'Abba, Father', and it is this that makes you a son, you are not a slave any more; and if God has made you son, then he has made you heir.

**Gospel Acclamation**

*Heb 1:1-2*

Alleluia, alleluia!

In the past God spoke to our ancestors through the prophets; now he speaks to us through his Son.

Alleluia!

**Gospel**

*Lk 2:16-21*

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

The shepherds hurried away to Bethlehem and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby lying in the manger. When they saw the child they repeated what they had been told about him, and everyone who heard it was astonished at what the shepherds had to say. As for Mary, she treasured all these things and pondered them in her heart. And the shepherds went back glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen; it was exactly as they had been told.

When the eighth day came and the child was to be circumcised, they gave him the name Jesus, the name the angel had given him before his conception.

**Communion Antiphon**

*Heb 13:8*

Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and for ever.

**PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS:**

**Recently deceased:** Marie Fuller.

**Anniversaries:** Roger Magalona.

**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:** Jane Michie, Imogen Ralph, Robin Koszyk, Joseph Flanagan, Thelma Lyndon, Jackie Cross & His Holiness Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI.

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



**UNIVERSAL PRAYER**

**Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God**

**Sunday 01 Jan 2023**

**Fr Peter:** At the beginning of a new year and with renewed hope let us pray to our God.

**Reader:** That this will be a year when violence gives way to peace and hatred gives way to reconciliation. Hear us we pray:

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

**Reader:** That, with the shepherds, the Church may find Christ anew and be astonished at what she sees. Hear us we pray:

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

**Reader:** That praise and thanksgiving be always in our hearts and on our lips. Hear us we pray:

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

**Reader:** That this community blessed by the Christ child, may be compassionate and generous to all. Hear us we pray:

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

**Reader:** That those who are sick will see the face of God in their suffering, including all those in our parish bulletin. Hear us we pray:

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

**Reader:** That those who have died will embrace the light of eternal life, especially Marie Fuller and Roger Magalona. Hear us we pray:

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

**Fr Peter:** God of surprises, you sent Jesus to us as a helpless child. Hear the prayers we now pray through the same Jesus Christ our Lord.

**All: Amen.**

**Readings for Next Week 7/8 January**

**First Reading**

Is 60:1-6 Jerusalem is exalted.

**Responsorial Psalm**

Ps 71:1-2. 7-8. 10-13, R. see v.11 (R.) Lord, every nation on earth will adore you.

**Second Reading**

Eph 3:2-3. 5-6 Paul declares the Gentiles co-heirs to the Kingdom.

**Gospel Acclamation**

Mt 2:2 Alleluia, alleluia! We have seen his star in the East; and have come to adore the Lord. Alleluia!

**Gospel**

Mt 2:1-12 The Wise Men journey to the infant Jesus.



### BAPTISMS

Celebrated most Sundays.  
Bookings via the Parish website

### MARRIAGE

Celebrated by arrangement with at least 6 months notice. Bookings via the parish website

### SACRAMENTAL PROCESS

Enrolment via the Parish Website

### RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS

(RCIA) Parish Office 0475 242 695

### 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 0475 242 695

#### Family and Friends Group

Meets monthly, contact Carol and Terry Pearson on 0408768729.

#### Singing Practice

Ken Heffernan 0475 242 695  
(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 last  
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 Thu 10.30am**  
Estia Tuncurry: **2nd Thu 10.30am**  
Estia Forster: **3rd Fri 10.30am**  
Baptistcare: **4th Thu 10.30am**



### 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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