



**St John
Vianney**
Parish Morisset



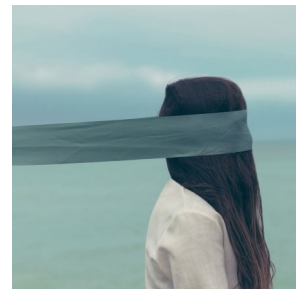
EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME YEAR C SUNDAY 27 FEBRUARY 2022

In the Gospel today, Jesus is scathing in his attack against hypocrisy. "Why do you observe the splinter in our brother's eye, and never notice the plank in your own? Hypocrite!"

We are living through a trying time in the Church. Some feel that, in the market place, the "brand Catholic," has suffered a loss of credibility, because of the clerical sex abuse. In our modern context, where the Church has lost much of its shine, Jesus' calls for integrity, and challenges us to be authentic to who we are.

Pope Francis has asked us to become a field hospital; to be in the messiness of life, not to run away into some "idealised future, or romantic past."

We need to listen to ourselves, to look at ourselves, and then correct what needs to be corrected. Because we can't guide others if we are blind ourselves. And we can't correct others, if we are riddled with faults ourselves



We Acknowledge the traditional owners of this land the Awabakal Peoples. And pay our respects to the elders past and present, and any that may be with us today.

PARISH LEADERSHIP TEAM:

Foundation	Leader	In Office
1. Identity and Community		
2. Worship and Prayer.	Uta France	Mon
3. Formation and Education		
4. Mission and Outreach.		
5. Leadership and Structure.	John France	Sat & Sun

If you have any concerns or questions you can also talk to any member of the Parish Pastoral Council (PPC) who are: Juliet Hutchins, Mal and Pam Melvey, Kerry Lendon, and Rod Hay.

PRIEST SUPERVISOR: Fr Geoff Mulhearn
SACRAMENTAL PRIEST: Fr John Purnell
Parish Secretary: Mrs Rosanna Suckling Mon— Fri 9am-2pm

OFFICE: 60 Yambo Street, Morisset, PO Box 87, Ph: 02 4973.6859
Office Hours: 9.00 am to 2.00pm—Monday to Friday
 (Due to COVID we ask that you make an appointment to come to the office)
Morisset Parish email: morparish@mn.catholic.org.au
Parish Leadership Team Email: morparishplt@mn.catholic.org.au
Morisset Parish Web site: www.vianneymorisset.org
Morisset Parish Facebook : <https://www.facebook.com/stjvparish>
Morisset Parish Instagram : https://www.instagram.com/stjvparish_morisset/
Morisset Parish Bulletin Items: morparish@mn.catholic.org.au
Morisset Parish Presbytery: Ph: 02 4973 1537
 (Please submit all Bulletin Notice requests to the parish office by 2pm Wednesdays)
Email the Parish Office to Subscribe for an Electronic Bulletin .

UPCOMING WORSHIP TIMES :

Sunday	27th February 9.30am Mass— Morisset
Tuesday	1st March 9.30am Mass— Morisset
Wednesday	2nd March 9.30am Ash Wednesday Mass— Morisset
Sunday	6th March 9.30am Mass— Morisset
Tuesday	8th March 9.30am Mass— Morisset

PHYSICAL DISTANCING REQUIRED

As the degree of harm to people in our Parish Community could experience if they caught COVID-19 is high under WHS Laws we are still required to Physical Distance 1.5m apart. Everyone will have the option to book in to be guaranteed a seat, however, it is NOT Compulsory. To book use the Book for Services button on the Parish Website, or the Eventbrite App or Website: <http://vianneymorisset.eventbrite.com> or call the Parish Office between 9am and 2pm Weekdays.

MASKS STRONGLY RECOMMENDED

Everyone over the age of 12 is strongly recommended by NSW Health to wear a Mask that covers the nose and mouth whilst indoors.

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**REFLECTION FOR THE 8TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME YEAR
C – 27TH FEBRUARY, 2022**

When you visit the city, Newcastle or Sydney, and you pass a person sitting on the footpath with a sign asking for help, because they are homeless or hungry, what is your reaction? Judgemental or compassionate? I have to admit to the former reaction in the past. I have found myself asking, *Why can't they do something useful? Why don't they get a job?* As I have got older (and hopefully a little wiser), I can chide myself. No life is without its difficulties and challenges, but I have been truly blessed in so many ways. I have no idea of the situations and suffering that have brought these individuals to begging for a handout hunched on street corners. It is certainly not for me to judge!

The Scriptures today leave us in no doubt that we need to examine our own flaws first, before we criticise others. Christ asks us, "Why do you observe the splinter in your brother's eye and never notice the plank in your own?" We cannot ignore our own failings but must seek to address them. Honesty with ourselves enables us to see another person's situation with greater fairness and compassion. We are not asked to be uncritical of behaviours that are wrong or to ignore situations that need correction, but our actions need to be done in the right spirit and for the right purpose. Again, Christ's words give us guidance: "A good man draws what is good from the store of goodness in his heart; a bad man draws what is bad from the store of badness." We have the tools to build that store of goodness: we have prayer to strengthen us, we have the Scriptures to guide us and the sacraments to help us draw closer to God. Not one of us is perfect but, if we endeavour to treat others with respect, patience and compassion, our families and our world will be much happier places.

Christ was the epitome of compassion and His sacrifice ensured our salvation. The way he reacted to others is the model for our behaviour. It was Christ who forgave his tormentors from the cross: he didn't judge them; he forgave them. Paul urges us to keep trying, despite the times we fall short. He encourages us: "never admit defeat; keep on working at the Lord's work always, knowing that, in the Lord, you cannot be labouring in vain."

Christ also told us: "Whatever you did to the least of my brothers, you did it to me." (Matt 25:40) The opportunity to show compassion and withhold judgement can be very close at hand and may come upon us unexpectedly. In the last few weeks my husband has been approached on two different occasions here in Morisset by a person in need, a person who was hungry and needed a place to sleep. We need to be ready always to see Christ in others.

In the week ahead let us use these Scriptures to focus on our own faults and to be less critical of others. Let us focus on Christ as our model of compassion. Pam Melvey

CELEBRATING WOMEN IN OUR DIOCESE

Join us in honouring the women in our Diocese, as we mark both International Women's Day and the launch of our new Council for Women!

We are hosting a celebratory Mass, which will be followed by a morning tea. We hope you can join us for this special occasion!

TIME: 9.30am DATE: Sunday, 6 March 2022
LOCATION: Sacred Heart Cathedral, Hamilton



Project Compassion Sunday

Please take home a Project Compassion box and a set of donation envelopes to support Caritas Australia this Lenten season and help support vulnerable people around the world, now and **For All Future Generations**.

With your support, Caritas Australia has been able to support vulnerable communities around the world to tackle poverty, food security, education, water and sanitation and disaster risk reduction. Project Compassion 2022 reminds us that the good that we do today will extend and impact the lives of generations to come to build better future for all.

As St Pope John Paul II said,

"The future starts today, not tomorrow."

Together, we can help vulnerable communities face their challenges today and build a better tomorrow **For All Future Generations**. You can donate through Project Compassion donation boxes and envelopes available from your Parish, by visiting lent.caritas.org.au, or by calling 1800 024 413.



ART AND SPIRITUALITY WORKSHOP

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.

This workshop will provide an opportunity to awaken the Spirit through the beauty of God's creation, prayer, and reflection. Participants will engage in art making experiences which will nourish their faith.

Dates: Thursday March 31 (9am-3pm)

Venue: Kilaben Bay Community Centre

Cost: \$25 per person

To register to go: <https://www.eventbrite.com.au/o/diocese-of-maitland-newcastle-18080128129>

Contact: Rose McAllister | rose.mcallister@mn.catholic.org.au

CARITAS AUTUMN NEWSLETTER

The Caritas Autumn newsletter is now available online at <https://www.caritas.org.au/news/our-magazine/>. Check out their latest news and stories from overseas and in Australia.



LITURGY MATTERS: RITE OF ELECTION

You're invited to come to the Rite of Election.

FIONA DUQUE PUBLISHED FEBRUARY 21, 2022

As we, the Church, journey together through the liturgical year we find ourselves in many liminal moments. Very soon we will start together on our Lenten journey towards our celebration of the Paschal Mystery at Easter. Interwoven in this Lenten journey is a liminal moment of great importance in the faith and life of the church. That is the Rite of Election of our Catechumens.

The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults is a journey begun by those seeking faith who come to the Catholic community to get to know Jesus and experience the Catholic way of life. The introductory phase is known as the Pre-catechumenate. When ready, those who wish to continue the journey take the first formal step, celebrated in the Rite of Acceptance, where they are 'accepted' into the Order of Catechumens. This marks the beginning of the second period of initiation where the Catechumens undergo a process of prayer and learning about the Catholic way of life which is driven by the liturgical year. Typically, the Catechumenate takes twelve months but may be longer according to the needs of the individual.

The Rite of Election closes the Period of the Catechumenate. This rite normally coincides with the first Sunday of Lent. At this time the Catechumens declare their desire for baptism supported by their godparents, sponsors, priests and, indeed, the whole church community. In the presence of the bishop (or delegate) in the cathedral, they sign their name in the Book of the Elect. They are then known as "the elect".

The Rite of Election is normally celebrated on the First Sunday of Lent. This marks the beginning of the third stage of the Initiation journey, aptly named the Period of Purification and Enlightenment. This can be a very intense time for The Elect when, accompanied by the community, they deepen their reflection of the Paschal Mystery. This preparation ensures that The Elect are ready to receive the Sacraments of Initiation (Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist) at the Easter Vigil. Once baptised they are known as Neophytes.

It is a surprise to some communities to know that this is not the end of the initiation journey. The Neophytes, still accompanied by the parish community, enter the Period of Post-Baptismal Mystagogy for the duration of the Easter Season. This time is focused firstly on the readings of the Sundays of Easter and preaching that breaks open their meaning for discipleship now and secondly on reflection on the experience of Initiation. The Neophytes continue to hold an important place in the community for the first twelve months of their life as baptised members of the faithful.

This year we encourage our Church community to come together at 2.30 pm on Sunday 6 March 2022 at the Sacred Heart Cathedral to support and pray for our Catechumens as

they become The Elect. For all details go to: <https://www.mnnews.today/media/2861467/d22-8979-promotion-flyer-rite-of-election-sacred-heart-cathedral-newcastle-west-06-march-2022.pdf>

Acknowledgements

Photo: © 2021 Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle. All rights reserved. Author: Fiona Duque Diocesan Christian Initiation Forum Leader of Learning Religion St Bede's Catholic College, Chisholm

2022 LENT / ASH WEDNESDAY

Next Wednesday we will celebrate Ash Wednesday, which begins the Season of Lent and embarks us on a journey towards Easter. To help celebrate Ash Wednesday Mass will be held in the Morisset Church at 9.30am.

Those of the older generation, will remember Lent in days gone by, as a severe and sombre season. Adults had to fast every day during Lent, not just Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. Abstinence was an everyday thing, not just on Fridays.

Following the Second Vatican Council in the 1960s, the church removed many of these rules.

Now we are invited to abstain more seriously. Giving up meat, while eating lobster, is not a real penance for most people, and it is to real penance that we are called. Penance is intended to show that we can reform our way of life.

Although observances seem less strict, Lent requires just as much of us today. We are challenged to observe the season of Lent with seriousness, and to take responsibility for our spiritual growth. That is a lot harder than just following rules, but it also has the potential of really making Lent, a time to change our lives and truly become more Christlike. We are called to do more than the minimum.

Lent touches something in all of us. Habit plays a big part in our lives. It is said that we live the second half of our lives according to the habits acquired in the first half. That will bring comfort to those who have formed good habits.

Lent provides us with a window of opportunity to look at ourselves and see how we can become better followers of Christ.

Each "right choice" makes the next right choice more likely and easier.

So, we pray. Father help us to observe this holy season in prayer and repentance, so that we may be ever more faithful to you and to one another. Amen.



"The universe is infused with the love of God, and we are immersed in a world that continues to reveal the presence of the divine word."

CRY OF THE EARTH, CRY OF THE POOR | SOCIAL JUSTICE STATEMENT 2021-22
Read it now at www.socialjustice.catholic.org.au

JOIN OUR DIOCESAN LITURGICAL MINISTRY

As we tentatively move to a less restricted 'new normal', liturgical ministry everywhere is in need of new life and new ministers. Here are two exciting invitations for you to consider personally, or perhaps you know someone who might be interested. Help spread the word!

LOUISE GANNON RSJ PUBLISHED FEBRUARY 21, 2022

Assistant Masters of Ceremonies

In 2016 Bishop Bill Wright asked Fr Andrew Doohan, his Master of Ceremonies, to introduce the ministry of Assistant Masters of Ceremonies to the Diocese. Since then, several people have participated in an initial formation journey to discern their call to this ministry. A College of Assistant Masters of Ceremonies has been established comprising the Master of Ceremonies, four Assistant Masters of Ceremonies, and the Manager of Worship and Prayer.

With the growth of this ministry, we are looking to increase the number of Assistant Masters of Ceremonies and seeking Expressions of Interest from members of the Church of Maitland-Newcastle who have the appropriate gifts and skills.

This ministry is opened to males and females 18 years and older. It would be an advantage to have experience as a liturgical minister.

All the relevant information including the Role Description and Formation Handbook, along with the Expression of Interest Letter and Form are accessible on the Diocesan website by clicking the 'Assistant Masters of Ceremonies' heading. The closing date is Friday 18 March.

Diocesan Christian Initiation Forum

All the baptised are commissioned by Christ to proclaim the Good News and make disciples. Long before Pope Francis, the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) imagined the Catholic parish as a community of missionary disciples whose way of life revealed Jesus through its commitment to community and mission.

In the Church of Maitland-Newcastle, the ministry of Christian Initiation – which includes RCIA and Sacraments of Initiation for Children – finds its home with the Diocesan Liturgy Council (DLC) and Office. The Christian Initiation Forum has been established by the DLC to shepherd this ministry according to the vision, principles and process of the RCIA.

With the continued growth of the ministry of Christian Initiation in parishes across the Diocese, it is time to seek Expressions of Interest for new members of the Christian Initiation Forum. For more information about this ministry please read the Forum's Mandate and those interested are invited to submit their Expression of Interest Form by Friday 18 March.

Initial formation is an integral aspect of both ministry groups. For further information on:

Assistant Masters of Ceremonies -

Email Fr Andrew at doohan@mn.catholic.org.au

Christian Initiation Forum -

Email Louise at gannon@mn.catholic.org.au

PRAYING THE GOSPELS

You are invited to connect and pray with each other across the Diocese from your own home. God speaks to us through the words of the Gospel and then through artist's images of the Gospel message. Join us each Wednesday 5.00-5.45pm.

Zoom link: <https://mncatholic.zoom.us/j/61036103033>

Password: pray

For more information contact:

rose.mcallister@mn.catholic.org.au



CONTINUING OUR JOURNEY.....BUILDING THE KINGDOM OF GOD TOGETHER IN 2022 | LENTEN REFLECTION

During Lent we are invited into prayer to renew and refocus our relationship with God, with ourselves and others, so we can fully celebrate the Paschal Mystery and live life to the full.

Continuing our synodal journey, you are invited to come together in parishes, schools and across the Diocese, both face-to-face and online, to remain connected during the season of Lent.

The resource provides the opportunity to encounter scripture and our synodal themes through the process of Mystagogical Reflection. As you encounter the mystery of God in the scripture, this will lead you to discover the mystery of God in one another through sharing of life and experience.

This resource is available on the Diocesan website:

www.mn.catholic.org.au/church-mission/catholic-life/liturgy/len-2022

The Diocese will be hosting Mystagogical Reflections each week during Lent, Monday mornings at 10.30am and Thursday evenings at 6.30pm.

To register, visit: <https://www.eventbrite.com.au/o/diocese-of-maitland-newcastle-18080128129>

Our Parish will be holding face-to-face and ZOOM sessions if you would like to join in please contact the parish office via email at: morparish@mn.catholic.org.au or phone: 02 4973 6859 between 9am and 2pm Weekdays, to express your interest.

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

Traditionally at this time of the year, the Churches of the district gather to celebrate 'World Day of Prayer'. This Year on Friday 4th March, at 10am, the Morisset Baptist Church Cnr Fishery Point Road and Pulbah St Morisset, will host the event. This year the World Day of Prayer has been planned by the churches of England, Wales, and Northern Ireland. Our Church will again actively participate in the event.

Because of Covid restrictions, attendance will be limited to 80 people. If you are planning to attend, could you please phone Rosanna our Parish Secretary on 49736859.

PRIDE MASS

Our Diocese is hosting a Pride Mass for LGBTIQ people and their families, friends and supporters. Time: 6.00PM

Date: Friday, 4 March 2022 Location: Immaculate Heart of Mary Church, 16 Tighes Terrace, Tighes Hill For more information, contact: LGBTIQ@mn.catholic.org.au

Keep up to date with all the Diocese Events and News at:
<https://mnnews.today/>

A PRAYER FOR THE APPOINTMENT OF A 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.

SUPPORTING OUR PARISH

We thank everyone who has continued their support for our Parish during these very different times. As cash is deemed a transmission hazard by NSW Health they recommend that donations and payments be made electronically.

There is an online parish payments button on the Parish Website Home page or alternatively you can deposit directly into the Parish Account our details are:
Account Name: CDF 96014 Morisset Parish BSB:062815
Account Number: 00328161 Ref: 5004 2nd Collection or 5004 PG and Giver Number.

WEEKEND ROSTERS

		<u>THIS WEEK</u>	<u>NEXT WEEK</u>
<u>Presiders</u>	9.30	Mass	Mass
<u>PROCLAIMER:</u>	9.30	L Hutchinson	H White
<u>PSALMIST:</u>	9.30	J France	M Melvey
<u>UNIVERSAL PRAYER</u>	9.30	J France	M Melvey
<u>SERVERS</u>	9.30	V Paulo	V Paulo
<u>AV:</u>	9.30	U France	M Foo
<u>SOUND/ VIDEO:</u>	9.30	L & G Hutchinson	L & G Hutchinson
<u>SIGN-IN</u>	9.30	H White T Alexander	K Amon J Vipan
<u>USHERS</u>	9.30	R Hay J France	K Lendon B Hutcheson
<u>CLEANING</u>	9.30	COVID TEAM	COVID TEAM

UPCOMING FEAST DAYS MEMORIALS AND SOLEMNITIES

ASH WEDNESDAY— 2ND MARCH

SAINTS PERPETUA AND FELICITY— 7TH MARCH

THE ANNUNCIATION OF THE LORD— 25TH MARCH

PALM SUNDAY— 10TH APRIL

THURSDAY OF THE LORD'S SUPPER— 14TH APRIL

FRIDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD— 15TH APRIL

PASCHAL VIGIL IN THE HOLY NIGHT— 16TH APRIL

SUNDAY OF THE RESURRECTION—17TH APRIL

ANZAC DAY—25TH APRIL

SAINT MARK— 26TH APRIL

Please pray for those who are sick, in hospital or recovering at home:

Joan Gillett, Bruce Gillett, Reg Callinan, Koby Smith, Patricia Jones.

Please pray for those who have been called to eternal life may they always be in our prayers.

Recently Deceased: Maureen Phillips



PRAYER REQUESTS FOR THE BULLETIN

If you would like the parish to pray for a family member who is sick, recently deceased or you would like remembered please call or email the parish office or complete a prayer card for each person and place in the mail box near the parish office door. Cards are available at the back of the church and at the Parish Office.

All prayer requests require permission from a family member or the person. Due to Australian privacy laws.

AN ACT OF SPIRITUAL 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.



Live stream Mass every Sunday at 9.30am at <https://www.mn.catholic.org.au/places/live-stream/>





SUNDAY PRAYER SERVICE

Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time C

Sunday 27 Feb 2022

The Introductory Rites

Project Compassion Sunday

Today is Project Compassion Sunday.

This year's theme reminds us that what we do today can have an impact For All Future Generations.

This message invites us to step up for those who do not have the essential resources they need for their survival, and those whose needs at this time are far beyond ours.

By putting compassion into action, we can make a difference today, For All Future Generations.

Gathering

The Lectionary/Roman Missal or a Bible may be placed on a table together with a candle and a cross.

Sign of the Cross

Leader:

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

All:

Amen.

Greeting

Leader:

Blessed be Jesus who makes us one,
and strengthens us
by the power of his Spirit.

All:

Blessed be God forever.

Introductory Remarks

Leader (in these or similar words):

Friends in Christ,
although we cannot celebrate the Eucharist this day,
we gather in God's name
for when two or more come together
God is always with us.
We worship in union with the whole Church
keeping this day of the Lord holy.

Opening Rite

LITANY OF PRAISE

Leader:

Before listening to the Word of God
let us praise the Lord Jesus Christ.

A brief period of silence follows.

Leader:

Lord Jesus, your words are spirit and life: Lord, have mercy.

All: Lord, have mercy.

Lord Jesus, you have saved us from death: Christ, have mercy.

All: Christ, have mercy.

Lord Jesus, your love is eternal: Lord, have mercy.

All: Lord, have mercy.

Leader:

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

All:

Amen.

Opening Prayer

Leader:

Let us pray.

All pause for silent prayer.

Grant us, O Lord, we pray,
that the course of our world
may be directed by your peaceful rule
and that your Church may rejoice,
untroubled in her devotion.

Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
God, for ever and ever.

All:

Amen.

The Liturgy of the Word

First Reading

Sir 27:4-7

A reading from the book of Ecclesiasticus

Do not praise someone before they have spoken.

In a shaken sieve the rubbish is left behind,
so too the defects of a man appear in his talk.
The kiln tests the work of the potter,

the test of a man is in his conversation.

The orchard where the tree grows is judged on the quality of its fruit,
similarly a man's words betray what he feels.

Do not praise a man before he has spoken,
since this is the test of men.

To indicate the end of the reading, the reader acclaims:

The word of the Lord.

All reply:

Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 91:2-3. 13-16. R. See v.2

(R.) Lord, it is good to give thanks to you.

1. It is good to give thanks to the Lord
to make music to your name, O Most High,
to proclaim your love in the morning
and your truth in the watches of the night. **(R.)**
2. The just will flourish like the palm-tree
and grow like a Lebanon cedar. **(R.)**
3. Planted in the house of the Lord
they will flourish in the courts of our God,
still bearing fruit when they are old,
still full of sap, still green,
to proclaim that the Lord is just.
In him, my rock, there is no wrong. **(R.)**

Second Reading

1 Cor 15:54-58

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

Victory has been given to us through Jesus Christ.

When this perishable nature has put on imperishability, and when this mortal nature has put on immortality, then the words of scripture will come true: Death is swallowed up in victory. Death, where is your victory? Death, where is your sting? Now the sting of death is sin, and sin gets its power from the Law. So let us thank God for giving us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

Never give in then, my dear brothers, never admit defeat; keep on working at the Lord's work always, knowing that, in the Lord, you cannot be labouring in vain.

To indicate the end of the reading, the reader acclaims:

The word of the Lord.

All reply:

Thanks be to God.

Gospel

Reader:

From the holy Gospel according to Luke.

All:

Glory to you, O Lord.

Lk 6:39-45

A person speaks from what is in his heart.

Jesus told a parable to his disciples, 'Can one blind man guide another? Surely both will fall into a pit? The disciple is not superior to his teacher; the fully trained disciple will always be like his teacher. Why do you observe the splinter in your brother's eye and never notice the plank in your own? How can you say to your brother, "Brother, let me take out the splinter that is in your eye," when you cannot see the plank in your own? Hypocrite! Take the plank out of your own eye first, and then you will see clearly enough to take out the splinter that is in your brother's eye.

'There is no sound tree that produces rotten fruit, nor again a rotten tree that produces sound fruit. For every tree can be told by its own fruit: people do not pick figs from thorns, nor gather grapes from brambles. A good man draws what is good from the store of goodness in his heart; a bad man draws what is bad from the store of badness. For a man's words flow out of what fills his heart.'

Reader:

The Gospel of the Lord.

All:

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

All are seated.

Reflection on the Word

A short period of reflection may be observed.

What does it mean to 'take the log out of your own eye'?

What strategies do you use to 'filter' or evaluate critical comments before you make them?

How do you recognise a person who produces good 'out of the good treasure of the heart'?

How do you seek to nurture the good treasure of your heart?

Profession of Faith

Leader:

In union with the whole Church
let us profess our faith.

All:

**I believe in God,
the Father almighty,
Creator of heaven and earth,
and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,**

At the words that follow, up to and including the Virgin Mary, all bow.

**who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
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.

Prayers of the Faithful

Leader: The words we speak display the yearnings of the heart. Let us turn to the Lord
in prayer and place our needs before him.

Reader: That the Church always speaks with honesty and compassion.

(pause)

To you we pray:

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: That those that suffer for the sake of integrity and goodness will be rewarded
for their faithfulness and courage.

(pause)

To you we pray:

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: That the one called to be Bishop for our Church of Maitland-Newcastle: May
the Holy Spirit inspire his yes to echo the words of Mary, 'Here I am, the Lord's
servant, let it happen to me as you have said.'

(pause)

To you we pray:

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: That those who preach the Gospel will never grow weary or become defeated.

(pause)

To you we pray:

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: That we will place the needs of our brothers and sisters before our own and
avoid hypocrisy in our lives.

(pause)

To you we pray:

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: That we have the wisdom, humility, and ability to see God's creation with the eyes of faith. May our support of Project Compassion enable us to produce fruit that will last.

(pause)

To you we pray:

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: That all who are sick will receive the support and comfort they need, especially those in our community and families.

(pause)

To you we pray:

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: That those who have died may enter eternal life, especially those in our community and families.

(pause)

To you we pray:

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader: God our Father, hear our prayer. May our thoughts and deeds bring us closer to your truth. We ask this through Christ the Lord.

All: Amen.

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The Lord's Prayer

Leader:

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

All:

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name;
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done
on earth as it is in heaven.**

**Give us this day our daily bread,
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.**

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

The Concluding Rite

Blessing

Leader:

May the Lord be with us
and protect us
now and for ever.

All make the sign of the cross during the blessing.

All:

Amen.

Dismissal

Leader:

Let us go in the peace to love and serve the Lord.

All:

Thanks be to God.

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