



**THIRTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME YEAR C SUNDAY 26TH JUNE 2022**

*What is emphasised in today's Gospel, is that if you wish to be a follower of Jesus, if you wish to help bring about a more humane way of life in the world, you cannot delay.*

*That we are all called to follow Jesus is no surprise. We are not all called in the same manner of following Christ. Never the less, every baptised person is called "to live by the Spirit." The task of following our vocation will never be easy.*

*Jesus was famous for his parable's. Jesus said that if we look back, we are not worthy of the kingdom of God. So Jesus described the kingdom in symbolic, poetic terms.*

*This suggests that the kingdom of God is not a place but a situation where God's will is done; it is an atmosphere in which God exercises his governance. It is the occasion of God's love being accepted and returned by all.*

*Keep moving ahead. Don't waver. That's what Jesus is trying to communicate to us. You cannot keep looking back.*



We acknowledge the traditional custodians of this land, the Awabakal People who, long before us lived, loved, educated and raised their children on this Country. We pay our respects to Elders past and present and we recognise the young people who are our future. We acknowledge all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander families in our communities. We respect their deep physical and spiritual connections to Country through their stories, traditions and living cultures.

**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

**OFFICE:** 60 Yambo Street, Morisset, PO Box 87, Ph: 02 4973.6859  
**Office Hours:** 9.00 am to 2.00pm—Monday to Friday (*except public holidays*)  
 (Due to COVID we ask that you make an appointment to come to the office)  
**Morisset Parish Office email:** [morparish@mn.catholic.org.au](mailto:morparish@mn.catholic.org.au)  
**Morisset Parish Web site:** [www.vianneymorisset.org](http://www.vianneymorisset.org)  
**Morisset Parish Facebook :** <https://www.facebook.com/stjvparish>  
**Morisset Parish Instagram :** [https://www.instagram.com/stjvparish\\_morisset/](https://www.instagram.com/stjvparish_morisset/)  
**Morisset Parish Bulletin Items:** [morparish@mn.catholic.org.au](mailto:morparish@mn.catholic.org.au)

**UPCOMING WORSHIP TIMES :**

Sunday	26th June 9.30am Mass— Morisset
Tuesday	28th June 9.30am Liturgy— Morisset
Saturday	2nd July 5pm Family Mass— Morisset
Sunday	3rd July 9.30am Mass— Morisset
Tuesday	5th July 9.30am Mass— Morisset

**TO KEEP OUR COMMUNITY SAFE  
WE ENCOURAGE**

**MASK WEARING  
PHYSICAL DISTANCING  
HAND SANITISING,  
STAY HOME IF SICK**

We still have a pre-book option available for our services but it is NOT compulsory. Please arrive 15mins early if you book and notify us of any cancellations. When the seating capacity of the Church is reached the overflow will be accommodated in the Callinan Centre for live streaming. To pre-book use the Book for Services button on the Parish Website, or the Eventbrite App or Eventbrite Website <http://vianneymorisset.eventbrite.com> or call the Parish Office between 9am and 2pm .

**2022-REFLECTION FOR 13<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME. -  
YEAR C**

The readings for the Thirteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time, remind us of the demands of authentic Christian discipleship. Christian discipleship is never for the faint-hearted. Nothing less than a total commitment is needed for a lifelong journey of Christian discipleship.

Commitment is what Jesus asked of his disciples in today's Gospel. On the face of it, his demands seem harsh and unreasonable. "Leave the dead to bury their dead", "no one who looks back is fit for the kingdom". However, these are not so much orders, but ways of emphasising the importance of undivided loyalty.

Jesus said to His disciples: "No one who sets a hand to the plough and looks to what was left behind is fit for the kingdom of God." To be truly free our eyes must be fixed on what's ahead, not what was in the past.

Ever since Pope Francis was elected, he has challenged the Church, to live out the demands of the Gospel. For him, discipleship has little to do with security, comfort, and complacency.

As true followers of Jesus, we must endeavour to persevere in goodness with the oppressed, our First Nation peoples, the asylum seekers, the children in detention, the homeless, and in all that is life giving for others.

What is urgent is that we need to find fresh ways of being Church and fresh ways of ministry and service, for both men and women disciples. New wine into new wineskins!

Let us pray that we have the courage, and the humility to respond to the call of Christian discipleship, as individuals and as the church. May we follow Christ in the realising of God's reign of love and justice, even amid doubt and uncertainty.

John France

**INAUGURAL FAMILY MASS  
Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2022**



You are invited to our  
inaugural FAMILY MASS  
At St John Vianney's Catholic Parish  
Mass will be followed by BBQ  
and refreshments.

**Starting @ 5pm  
In St John  
Vianney Catholic  
Church  
60 Yambo St  
Morisset**



[www.vianneymorisset.org](http://www.vianneymorisset.org)





**PASTORAL LETTER TO THE PEOPLE OF THE DIOCESE OF  
MAITLAND-NEWCASTLE**

My brothers and sisters in Christ,

Our remorse and sorrow at the abuse we as a Church failed to respond too adequately and appropriately and perpetrated at the hands of Church men, both clerical and lay, is genuine. I continue to be saddened and regret deeply what has happened to so many innocent young people and their families.

Our Perpetual Day of Remembrance in September is an acknowledgement that we did get many things wrong and a reaffirmation to do better into the future.

I reaffirm the Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle's commitment to the protection of minors and vulnerable persons not only within our Church but also to the wider community. Whilst much has been done including educational formation in this space there is still much work to be achieved.

Of late much has been written about our failings as a Church and by those in leadership to abuse, and the victims of abuse. Bishop Bill Wright was a tireless crusader in the prevention of abuse in our Church and we have processes in place now due largely to his leadership. They are good processes, and we commit as a Church to adhering to them.

The establishment of both the Office of Safeguarding and Zimmerman Service is testament to this Diocese' commitment to the prevention of abuse and our ongoing desire to support those who have been affected. It is a commitment to be a church of safety and sanctuary.

Our parishes continue to work hard to be places our Gospels demand them to be. By now every parish will have worked through a check list of standards for safety and many will have appointed promoters of safeguarding or established teams in response to those safeguarding standards. If you haven't heard anything about them take the time to ask your parish leadership to show them to you.

These standards will assist us in our ongoing commitment to safety and help us remain communities dedicated to the safety of others and for spreading the Good News. They are the important next stages in ensuring our communities, agencies and parishes continue to be safe places for all.

I am reminded that I was appointed as Parish Priest to Forster Tuncurry and again to Boolaroo, Warners Bay and Booragul to serve not only the Catholic people but also to the wider community beyond the gates and walls of our Catholic Church.

Abuse takes many forms not solely restricted to sexual abuse and the cultivation of minors for illegal purposes. There are many ways abuse is experienced including physical, psychological and financial abuse. Domestic violence is on the rise, so to many forms of financial 'slavery', experienced by women, children, and the elderly especially. Those who experience it often feel trapped and feel unseen, unheard and unhelped. The signs are hard to see, and during COVID restrictions made harder. We must remain vigilant; our eyes and hearts always open.

I also reaffirm, as a church, our commitment to be a voice for those who experience any form of abuse. I know we remained silent for too long in the past.

I would like to be able to make a commitment that all forms of abuse will be eradicated from our society and certainly our church, but I can't. It is an insidious evil that permeates many parts of society here and abroad.

What I can make is a continuing commitment to hear, listen and see the signs of abuse, to be informed and educated in

those signs and to know how to respond appropriately and with courage, to ensure that those who are at risk are heard and as importantly protected. I know you join with me in so making this commitment.

In Christ,

Rev Gregory Barker

Diocesan Administrator



**WORLD DAY OF MIGRANTS AND REFUGEES TO BRING  
PEOPLE TOGETHER**

The World Day of Migrants and Refugees calls on Catholics to come together and share the load in building a future that embraces God's plan, leaving no one behind.

ELIZABETH SYMINGTON PUBLISHED JUNE 21, 2022

"Building the Future with Migrants and Refugees".

That's the theme of this year's World Day of Migrants and Refugees on Sunday 25 September.

The annual event calls on Catholics to come together and share the load in building a future that embraces God's plan, leaving no one behind.

Ahead of the event, Pope Francis has shared a message to encourage everyone to get involved.

"Dear brothers and sisters, and, in a special way, young people! If we want to cooperate with our heavenly Father in building the future, let us do so together with our brothers and sisters who are migrants and refugees," he writes.

"Let us build the future today! For the future begins today and it begins with each of us.

"We cannot leave to future generations the burden of responsibility for decisions that need to be made now, so that God's plan for the world may be realized and his Kingdom of justice, fraternity, and peace may come."

Pope Francis also reflects on the important role migrants and refugees play in our community.

"As we have seen, the arrival of Catholic migrants and refugees can energize the ecclesial life of the communities that welcome them," he continues.

"Often they bring an enthusiasm that can revitalize our communities and enliven our celebrations. Sharing different expressions of faith and devotions offers us a privileged opportunity for experiencing more fully the catholicity of the People of God."

His message also coincides with Refugee Week. The Catholic Diocese Maitland-Newcastle encourages everyone to get involved with local activities in your area.

To read The Pope's full statement, go to : <https://www.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/messages/migration/documents/20220509-world-migrants-day-2022.html> For more information about World Day of Migrants and Refugees, go to: <https://migrants-refugees.va/>



# **FAITH MATTERS: LIVING WELL DYING WELL**

Having travelled to Sydney for the June long weekend I

was amazed by the sheer volume of people on the streets. So many families were out and about, it seems that COVID is a thing of the past.

ROSEMARY MCALLISTER PUBLISHED JUNE 21, 2022

The attractions this time of the year in Sydney are numerous. The Archibald, Wynne and Sulman prizes are being shown at the Art Gallery of NSW, the Sydney Film Festival is in full swing and VIVID is brightening our skies during this incredibly cold start to winter.

While I am a massive supporter of the arts and like to keep abreast of the contemporary scene, I was also drawn to Sydney due a presentation from the Vivid Ideas Exchange, titled Dying Well.

It might seem strange for this article to be placed in a week that is focused on the World Meeting of Families, but we all know that the bodily presence of all living beings on this earth will inevitably cease. What is important is that a person's spirit is kept alive, so memories are not lost.

The attraction for attending this presentation has come from several months of encountering stories about death, dying and how the human person manages those situations.

Several weeks ago, I was privileged to have participated in volunteer companion training through a Sydney Catholic Care, Living Well, Dying Well. It brought to light the need to start a conversation to remove the stigma around, and normalise death and dying as a natural part of the cycle of life.

This was further highlighted at the recent Dying to Know Day held on Sunday 8 June at James Murray Funerals. Dying to Know Day is an annual campaign that empowers Australians at all stages of life to live and die well. The Grounds Swell Project encourage Australians to 'get death set' on end-of-life death and dying. Part of this day included a tour of James Murray Funeral; it came to light how parishes and the church in general are not called on as they were in the past to organise funeral services. Death and dying have become a business with services including death doulas and eulogy specialists who can customise your loved one's life in a 30-minute speech with a 24 hour turn around.

Our western culture simply avoids conversations about death and dying and one thing that stood out to me at the Dying to Know Day was, make sure conversations are had before loved ones are gone. This will ensure they have the

send off that they want, not one that the remaining family want.

Reflecting on Vivid Ideas Exchange presentation Dying Well, I recall a conversation that I have recently had with a much-loved parishioner, Margaret. It was several months ago now that I visited the sprightly 93 year old, who is always elegantly dressed and has a cheeky sense of humour.

Margaret has always had a deep faith and now days when she leaves the house, she always illuminates her sacred space with a battery-operated candle and prays for her safe return home. Believing in the power of communication through prayer Margaret says to God, 'You are old, make sure you turn up your hearing aids so you can hear me.'

Margaret invited me to her home to speak to me about several events which occurred years ago at times in her life when she was alone, or that is what she thought. Having lost her dear husband Harold 38 years ago she was left to care for her mother-in-law and brother-in-law who lived next door. Trouble brewed after they both died, and the house was sold to a man who caused Margaret much distress. On different occasions Margaret prayed for support and to her surprise an image of her mother-in-law fell to the ground. At the time Margaret approached her parish priest about this and he told her, that she was being looked after and listened to.

When Margaret's brother-in-law died after a long battle with a stroke, she dreamt of him standing outside the family home. He looked radiant and well and not long after that a plant began growing in the exact place. When I speak to Margaret about these occurrences, she has said in a humorous way she is being haunted or is being trained to haunt.

Much of what Margaret spoke to me about was in forefront of my mind at the Dying Well presentation. Hosted by Emmy award-winning VR filmmaker and artist Lynette Wallworth with guests Dr Chris Kerr who is the Chief Medical Officer and Chief Executive Officer at Hospice and Palliative Care Buffalo, NY. His book Death is but a Dream describes his astounding research into the dreams of dying patients.

There was much discussion around making meaning of death and dying and how in different cultures this has always been such a normal practice and an entry to the next chapter. The connection was in regard to the living and dead and how at the end-of-life people often have experiences and dreams when they can see loved ones that have gone to the other side. Kerr's research reveals that our loved ones are closer than what we think. Those that we physically don't see are not gone for good, but watch over us.

There is a lost culture of the walking dead, angels and those who have crossed to the other side. It gives us comfort to know that death is not the end but rather an entry point to join the communion of saints.





### **NEWCASTLE SERVES UP NEW OPPORTUNITIES FOR SHAMS**

As Shams Uddim serves the people of Newcastle from behind the counter of his kebab shop, he feels lucky to be living in Australia.

ELIZABETH SYMINGTON PUBLISHED JUNE 21, 2022

As Shams Uddim serves the people of Newcastle from behind the counter of his kebab shop, he feels lucky to be living in Australia. In 2015 he and his then small family made the journey to our country to escape war in Afghanistan.

"[We left] because the situation in Afghanistan is not good, you could see that every day was going to be bad," he said.

"Australia is a good place to live, and we came here to save our lives."

Fast forward to 2022 and Shams, his wife Aziza and their five children, ranging in ages from four to 16, love where they live. "We first arrived in Newcastle and didn't move – we love the city," Shams said.

"[But] I have been to Melbourne, Adelaide, Sydney and Brisbane and they are all lovely places, it is a lovely country."

While it was overwhelming for the family when they first arrived, Shams says CatholicCare Hunter Manning's Refugee Hub was a saving grace. Learning English wasn't too difficult but settling into a new city came with some challenges.

"For me it wasn't too hard because I studied English at school in Afghanistan," Shams said.

"[But] it can still be really hard though, it's a different life and different language."

The hub provided the family with support as they settled in, he says it "helped a lot".

CatholicCare's programs helped them to find their feet and gain the confidence they needed to become a part of the local community. Since arriving in Australia, the family has opened a business on Beaumont Street in Hamilton. Shams Kebab House offers delicious Afghan Kebabs in one of Newcastle's busiest food precincts.

"This shop was opened in December 2020," Shams said.

"I am feeling good [about it], I am very happy to have this shop and my own business."

While trade is a little slow at the moment because of the colder weather, Shams is looking forward to a busy summer period. He is proud that he is now in a position to serve CatholicCare's Refugee Hub – after he was engaged to provide catering at their recent Harmony Day morning tea and for a garden working bee.

"I wish to help them," he said.

### **ECUMENICAL AND INTERFAITH COUNCIL – ABORIGINAL SPIRITUALITY DAY**

The Ecumenical and Interfaith Council would like to warmly invite you to join us to experience an Aboriginal Spirituality Formation Day

**Date:** Thursday 14 July 2022 **Time:** 9.00am to 2.30pm  
**Location:** Our Lady of Good Counsel Church, 5 Hyndes St, West Wallsend.

The day will concentrate on the core elements of Aboriginal Spirituality and will begin with Mass of the Land of the Holy Spirit, celebrated by Fr John Purnell.

**Registration is now open.** Register at: <https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/aboriginal-spirituality-formation-day-tickets-32290022257>

### **AURORA**

Copies of the June Edition of the Aurora are at the back of the Church.

### **ECUMENICAL AND INTERFAITH COUNCIL – CHURCH CRAWL**

The Ecumenical and Interfaith Council would like to warmly invite you to join us for a Church Crawl, to be held on **Saturday 23 July from 9.30am to 3.45pm.**

We will visit four Newcastle Churches in the one day, Christ Church Cathedral, Sacred Heart Cathedral, the Lutheran Church and a Russian Orthodox Church.

It will be an opportunity to *unlearn, learn, and relearn* by hearing about the faith of others, asking questions and getting to know others. **Registration is now open.**

Register at: <https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/church-crawl-tickets-318631875517>

### **2022 ACU PRIZE FOR POETRY**

The 2022 ACU Prize for Poetry is open for all Australian residents to craft their finest poems on the theme of 'Hope', inspired by a line from Alfred Lord Tennyson's famous play Robin Hood play: "Hope smiles from the threshold of the year to come, whispering 'it will be happier'..." Entries for the prize, which has a coveted \$20,000 prize pool will close on July 4, 2022.

More information about the ACU Prize for Poetry including how to enter can be found at the ACU Prize for Poetry website. [www.acu.edu.au/prizeforpoetry](http://www.acu.edu.au/prizeforpoetry)

### **PRAYING THE GOSPELS**

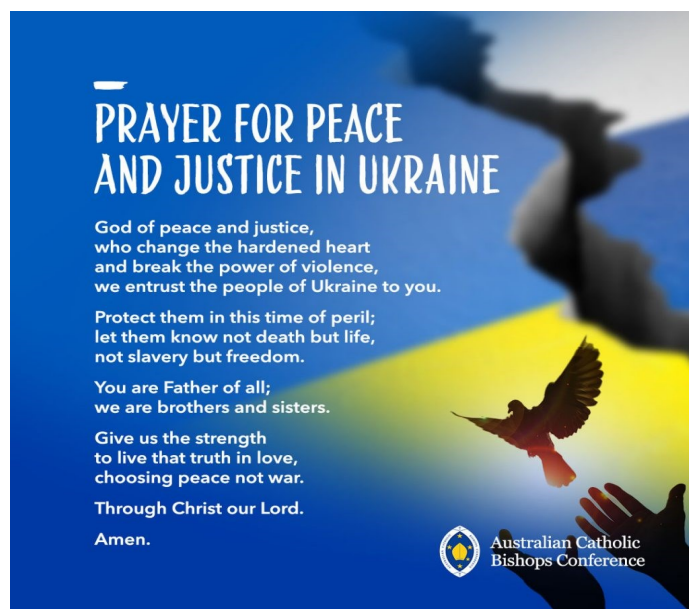
You are invited to connect and pray with each other across the Diocese from your own home. God speaks to us through the words of the Gospel and then through artist's images of the Gospel message. Join us each Wednesday 5.00-5.45pm.

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

Password: pray For more information contact: [rose.mcallister@mn.catholic.org.au](mailto:rose.mcallister@mn.catholic.org.au)

### **MYSTAGOGY MONDAY**

Mystagogical reflection invites us into a personal encounter with Christ in the gospel we have heard, the liturgy we have celebrated, or an experience of life or ministry. It invites us to pay attention to what Christ reveals to us, both in that encounter and the living tradition of our faith and to connect it to life now. It invites us to dialogue and transformation. Join us each Monday morning at 10am as we reveal the mystery of God found in the Sunday Gospel. Register: [www.eventbrite.com.au/e/mystagogy-mondays-tickets-304319105637](https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/mystagogy-mondays-tickets-304319105637)



### **SUPPORTING THE CLERGY / 1ST COLLECTION**

The 1st collections in 2020-21 are 67% of the 2018-19 1st collection, which is a 33% reduction. The first two quarters of 2021-22 show the decline continuing. We wish to thank those who have continued to support the Clergy and are asking for those who are not doing so to consider making contributions to support the Clergy / 1st Collection at Mass in the BLUE bucket or electronically using the Online Payments button on the Parish Website Home page or the Diocese App.

### **SUPPORTING OUR PARISH / 2ND COLLECTION**

We wish to thank everyone who has continued their support of our Parish during these very different times. You can support our Parish at Mass via the RED bucket or 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, or you can use the Online Payments button on the Parish Website Home page or the Diocese App.

### **UPCOMING FEAST DAYS MEMORIALS AND SOLEMNITIES**

SAINT IRENAEUS— 28TH JUNE  
SAINTS PETER AND PAUL— 29TH JUNE  
SAINT BENEDICT— 11TH JULY  
SAINT BONAVENTURE— 15TH JULY  
SAINT MARY MAGDALENE— 22ND JULY  
SAINT JAMES— 25TH JULY  
SAINTS JOACHIM AND ANNE— 26TH JULY  
SAINTS MARTHA, MARY AND LAZARUS— 29TH JULY  
SAINT ALPHONSUS MARY DE LIGUORI— 1ST AUGUST  
SAINT DOMINIC— 3RD AUGUST

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

Yvonne Beecroft, Bernadette Martin, Sue Alexander, John Francisco, Joan Gillett, Bruce Gillett, Koby Smith, Patricia Jones.

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

**Remembrance:** Bruce White



### **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/>**

<b><u>WEEKEND ROSTERS</u></b>			
		<b><u>THIS WEEK</u></b>	<b><u>NEXT WEEK</u></b>
<b><u>Presiders</u></b>	9.30	Mass	Mass
<b><u>PROCLAIMER:</u></b>	9.30	L Hutchinson	TBA
<b><u>PSALMIST:</u></b>	9.30	M Shamley	TBA
<b><u>UNIVERSAL PRAYER</u></b>	9.30	M Shamley	TBA
<b><u>GIFTS</u></b>	9.30	P Herbert R Hay	TBA
<b><u>SERVERS</u></b>	9.30	V Paulo	TBA
<b><u>AV:</u></b>	9.30	J France	TBA
<b><u>SOUND/ VIDEO:</u></b>	9.30	L & G Hutchinson	TBA
<b><u>COVID TEAM</u></b>	9.30	H White T Alexander R Hay J France	TBA
<b><u>COVID CLEANING</u></b>	9.30	COVID TEAMS	COVID TEAMS

*The Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle has an abiding commitment to promote the safety, welfare and wellbeing of children and vulnerable adults. If you have any concerns for a child or vulnerable adult please contact the Office of Safeguarding (ph: 4979 1390 or email: [childprotection@mn.catholic.org.au](mailto:childprotection@mn.catholic.org.au)), or visit their website for further information ([www.officeofsafeguarding.org.au](http://www.officeofsafeguarding.org.au)).*





"Go and  
proclaim the  
kingdom of  
God."  
Luke 9:60

# SUNDAY PRAYER SERVICE

## Thirteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time Year C

### Sunday 26 Jun 2022

## The Introductory Rites

### Acknowledgement of Country

We acknowledge the traditional custodians of this land, on which we gather today, who, long before us lived, loved, educated and raised their children on this Country. We pay our respects to Elders past and present and we recognise the young people who are our future. We acknowledge all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander families in our communities. We respect their deep physical and spiritual connections to Country through their stories, traditions and living cultures.

### 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, you summon us to follow you: Lord, have mercy.

**All: Lord, have mercy.**

Lord Jesus, you have won freedom for us: Christ, have mercy.

**All: Christ, have mercy.**

Lord Jesus, you show us the path of life: 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:*

**All: Amen.**

## Opening Prayer

*Leader:*

Let us pray.

*All pause for silent prayer.*

Almighty God  
your son Jesus put his trust in you  
and called us to follow in his name.  
Help us to walk in the footsteps of Jesus  
and in his name,  
show kindness to others.  
We ask this through Jesus Christ,  
for ever and ever.

*All:*

**Amen.**

## The Liturgy of the Word

### First Reading

**1 Kgs 19:16. 19-21**

A reading from the first book of the Kings

*Elisha rose and followed Elijah and became his servant.*

The Lord said to Elijah: 'Go, you are to anoint Elisha son of Shaphat, of Abel Meholah, as prophet to succeed you.'

Leaving there, Elijah came on Elisha son of Shaphat as he was ploughing behind twelve yoke of oxen, he himself being with the twelfth. Elijah passed near to him and threw his cloak over him. Elisha left his oxen and ran after Elijah. 'Let me kiss my father and mother, then I will follow you' he said. Elijah answered, 'Go, go back; for have I done anything to you?' Elisha turned away, took the pair of oxen and slaughtered them. He used the plough for cooking the oxen, then gave to his men, who ate. He then rose, and followed Elijah and became his servant.

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

The word of the Lord.

*All reply:*

**Thanks be to God.**



## Responsorial Psalm

**Ps 15:1-2. 5. 7-11. R. cf. v.5**

**(R.) You are my inheritance, O Lord.**

1. Preserve me, God, I take refuge in you.  
I say to the Lord: 'You are my God.'  
O Lord, it is you who are my portion and cup;  
it is you yourself who are my prize. **(R.)**
2. I will bless the Lord who gives me counsel,  
who even at night directs my heart.  
I keep the Lord ever in my sight:  
since he is at my right hand, I shall stand firm. **(R.)**
3. And so my heart rejoices, my soul is glad;  
even my body shall rest in safety.  
For you will not leave my soul among the dead,  
nor let your beloved know decay. **(R.)**
4. You will show me the path of life,  
the fullness of joy in your presence,  
at your right hand happiness for ever. **(R.)**

## Second Reading

**Gal 5:1. 13-18**

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Galatians

*My brothers, you were called to freedom.*

When Christ freed us, he meant us to remain free. Stand firm, therefore, and do not submit again to the yoke of slavery.

My brothers, you were called, as you know, to liberty; but be careful, or this liberty will provide an opening for self-indulgence. Serve one another, rather, in works of love, since the whole of the Law is summarised in a single command: Love your neighbour as yourself. If you go snapping at each other and tearing each other to pieces, you had better watch or you will destroy the whole community.

Let me put it like this: if you are guided by the Spirit you will be in no danger of yielding to self-indulgence, since self-indulgence is the opposite of the Spirit, the Spirit is totally against such a thing, and it is precisely because the two are so opposed that you do not always carry out your good intentions. If you are led by the Spirit, no law can touch you.

*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 9:51-62**

*Jesus resolutely set his face towards Jerusalem. I will follow you wherever you will go.*

As the time drew near for him to be taken up to heaven, Jesus resolutely took the road for Jerusalem and sent messengers ahead of him. These set out, and they went into a Samaritan village to make preparations for him, but the people would not receive him because he was making for Jerusalem. Seeing this, the disciples James and John said, 'Lord, do you want us to call down fire from heaven to burn them up?' But he turned and rebuked them, and they went off to another village.

As they travelled along they met a man on the road who said to him, 'I will follow you wherever you go.' Jesus answered, 'Foxes have holes and the birds of the air have nests, but the Son of Man has nowhere to lay his head.'

Another to whom he said, 'Follow me,' replied, 'Let me go and bury my father first.' But he answered, 'Leave the dead to bury their dead; your duty is to go and spread the news of the kingdom of God.'

Another said, 'I will follow you, sir, but first let me go and say good-bye to my people at home.' Jesus said to him, 'Once the hand is laid on the plough, no one who looks back is fit for the kingdom of God.'

*Reader:*

The Gospel of the Lord.

*All:*

**Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

*All are seated.*

## Reflection on the Word

Q. What was your immediate reaction to hearing/reading today's gospel?

Q. Why might the gospel writer have incorporated these difficult sayings of Jesus?

Q. How do you think the three would-be followers reacted to Jesus' words?

Q. Why might Jesus have felt such urgency about the Kingdom?

Q. When have you ever felt a similar passion, commitment and urgency?

## 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: Sisters and brothers, with faith in the promise of eternal life, we turn to God with our intentions.

Reader: That our Holy Father Pope Francis, will continue to guide the Catholic Church in peace and harmony. (pause)

In faith we pray:

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

Reader: That nations and governments at war will follow the way of Christ in reconciliation.(pause)

In faith we pray:

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

Reader: That the many refugees around the world waiting to find a place of safety and freedom will have their need for certainty and security met with generous refugee and humanitarian intake commitments by Governments around the world, including the Australian Government. (pause)

In faith we pray:

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

Reader: That our parish community will have confidence to serve the Lord, and follow Christ in all we do. (pause)

In faith we pray:

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

Reader: That the sick will find consolation in Christ's love, especially those in our community and families. (pause)

In faith we pray:

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

Reader: That those who have died will walk in the path of eternal life with Christ, especially those in our community and families. (pause)

In faith we pray:

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

Leader: Loving God, your Son shows us the path to the eternal Jerusalem. Hear our prayers and help us to serve you always in faith until we take our place in the kingdom of heaven. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

**All:Amen.**



## 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.**

© The scriptural quotations are taken from the Jerusalem Bible, published and copyright 1966, 1967 and 1968 by Darton Longman and Todd Ltd and Doubleday & Co Inc, and used by permission of the publishers.

The English translation of the Psalm Responses, the Alleluia and Gospel Verses, and the Lenten Gospel Acclamations, and the Titles, Summaries, and Conclusion of the Readings, from the Lectionary for Mass © 1997, 1981, 1968, International Committee on English in the Liturgy, Inc. All rights reserved. The prayers are from the English Translation of the Roman Missal © 2010 International Committee on English in the Liturgy Inc. (ICEL). All rights reserved.