



## ELEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME YEAR A 18 JUNE 2023

*In today's Gospel we see the compassion of Jesus had for the ordinary people in their sufferings.*

*Jesus had many disciples. From the ranks he picked out twelve leaders. He called them apostles. Who were these men and what qualifications did they have? Some were sinners, one a member of the resistance, one a former tax collector, one who would end up a traitor, and a few others about whom we know nothing.*

*Just as Jesus sent his disciples to continue his work and mission, so too today, the Church is sent by Jesus. Every member of the Church is sent by Jesus to contribute to this mission.*

*What about our own times? Are people looking for God? Are we looking for God? That is the challenge. That is the invitation*

*Let us pray this Sunday for a deeper awareness of God's divine presence in our personal lives, and in the life of our Christian communities.*



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** who are: Juliet Hutchins, Mal and Pam Melvey, Kerry Lendon, and Rod Hay.

**PRIEST SUPERVISOR:** Fr Joseph Figuardo  
**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 :

Saturday	17th June 5pm Family Mass— Morisset
Sunday	18th June 9.30am Mass—Morisset
Tuesday	20th June 9.30am Liturgy—Morisset
Saturday	24th June 5pm Mass— Cooranbong
Sunday	25th June 9.30am Mass— Morisset
Tuesday	27th June 9.30am Liturgy— Morisset
Saturday	1st July 5pm Family Mass— Morisset
Sunday	2nd July 9.30am Mass— Morisset
Saturday	8th July 5pm Mass— Cooranbong
Sunday	9th July 9.30am Mass— Morisset
Saturday	15th July 5pm Family Mass— Morisset
Sunday	16th July 9.30am Mass— Morisset
Tuesday	18th July 9.30am Liturgy— Morisset



## Eleventh Sunday in Ordinary Time—18th June 2023

These elements are written by Greg Sunter and are provided as bite size thoughts on the Gospel.

### Scriptural context – The House of Israel

The gospel passage has Jesus telling his newly commissioned apostles to go only to the House of Israel, not to go to Samaritans or into pagan territory; the ministry of the apostles is only to be addressed to Jews. But this is the first part of a two-phase ministry. At the conclusion of the gospel, the Risen Jesus directs his followers to 'make disciples of all the nations'. For the Matthew community, (unlike the community of Luke) it was the House of Israel that needed renewal first before the message of Jesus could be taken to gentile and pagan communities.

### Have you thought? – The labourers are few

This passage is often used as the basis for sermons, conversations or even marketing about vocations – vocations to religious life as well as lay vocations. The image of a rich harvest with not enough labourers to reap the harvest is a powerful one. In the Western world in particular today it is very true of priestly and religious vocations. However, it is equally true of lay vocations. Too few people are prepared to 'own' their faith and live the message of the gospel in their day to day work and interactions with others. In what way are you a labourer in the harvest?

### Living the Gospel – Apostles, not disciples

There is a lovely distinction in this gospel passage between disciples and apostles. Jesus calls his twelve disciples, commissions them and sends them out to continue his work. From then on, they are referred to as 'apostles'. Disciples are followers, but apostles have been sent out. In our own lives we are called to accept the challenge of being apostles, not disciples. For we are not just followers, we have been sent out by Jesus to continue his work. To be a disciple is just the first step. Disciples follow a path; apostles take the initiative and forge their own path.

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## Confirmation 2023

To our Catholic families:

It is now time that we begin the process of welcoming families into the preparation of sacraments at St John Vianney Morisset.

If your child is in Year 3 or over, we invite you to come to an information meeting on the **21<sup>st</sup> of June at 7pm**

where we hope to place before you the process involved in the initiation of your children into the Sacraments of Confirmation, First Communion and Penance. Children are not expected to attend this information session.

Please contact our Parish Office to register your attendance: Ph: 4973 6859 or Email: [morparish@mn.catholic.org.au](mailto:morparish@mn.catholic.org.au)

We look forward to working with you in your child's faith journey. In case you weren't aware the parish holds a Family Mass twice a month. These are held on the first and third Saturday at 5pm.

Our next Family Mass will be on 17<sup>th</sup> June @ 5pm in the Morisset church, Please come along and join us!



## Prayers and support for those impacted by Hunter Valley bus accident

The recent news of the Hunter Valley bus accident has been shocking and deeply saddening.

Bishop Michael Kennedy said, "We offer our prayers, sympathies and support to the family, friends and many people impacted."

"The devastation in our community will be felt far and wide. I was deeply saddened to hear of the terrible loss of life and injury. I offer my condolences and prayers to all those involved."

The Diocese has been working with our schools and services in Singleton and across the region to ensure we provide support needed to those in the communities.

We will continue to provide this support as we come to terms with what has happened and our parishes are providing support to anyone looking for comfort at this time with special prayers and services provided.

### Services and support available

- The Vicar General has travelled to Singleton to provide additional pastoral support to the Singleton community, to assist the local parish priest. A memorial service is being planned and prayer station has been established in St Patrick's Catholic Church and all members of the community affected by the bus tragedy are welcome to gather and join in prayer.
- A memorial liturgy will be held at Sacred Heart Cathedral, Hamilton early next week.
- A prayer station has been established at Sacred Heart Cathedral, Hamilton and all people are welcome to light a memorial candle and gather in reflection.
- Our clergy and chaplains are available to offer pastoral care to all in our community.
- Prayers are being provided for use at Sunday masses and resources for other prayer services are also being made available.
- Students, staff and their families at St Catherine's Catholic College Singleton are able to access counselling through our school-based Beyond the Gates program as well as our additional external provider, The Rosewood Centre.
- Staff and families impacted who attend St Nicholas Early Education Singleton are also able to access counselling and supports.

*Eternal rest grant to them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them.*

*May the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.*

*Amen.*

## Church/Faith Crawl

The Ecumenical and Interfaith Council of the Catholic Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle invites you to visit four Newcastle faith communities on Wednesday, 19 July from 9:30am to 3:45pm.

Lunch will be provided by the Salvation Army (\$10 per person). Registration is now open and closes Friday, 14 July. To register, visit

[www.eventbrite.com.au/e/church-crawl-tickets-648540932387](http://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/church-crawl-tickets-648540932387)



### **St Vincent De Paul Winter Appeal**

Our Morisset Conference of St. Vincent de-Paul Winter Cash Appeal will be held next weekend Saturday 24th and Sunday June 25th. All cash donations are gratefully received and go to helping needy families in our community!!

Please let me know if you need a receipt.

Many thanks! Monica Gray

### **Pope Francis' Prayer Intention for June 2023**

We pray that the international community may commit in a concrete way to ensuring the abolition of torture and guarantee support to victims and their families.

### **NAIDOC Week 2023**

The Diocese's commitment to the Reflect Reconciliation Action Plan, launched in August 2022, was about developing relationships, and exploring avenues to engage with Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander stakeholders. Our Diocesan Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Catholic Ministry and Reconciliation Action Plan Reference Group continues to foster this journey and shows our public commitment to Reconciliation and education - please consider promoting, supporting, and attending the following four upcoming July events:

#### **NAIDOC Week - March and Community Festival - Monday 3 July - 9am - 3pm**

As part of our continued Reconciliation Action Plan journey, the Catholic Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle and CatholicCare Social Services have chosen to sponsor a tent at a community event hosted by Awabakal Ltd. We encourage all staff, volunteers and parishioners to attend and/or volunteer their time at the NAIDOC Week Community March and Festival.

The event starts at 9am in Civic Park, Newcastle with a flag-raising before marching in a procession to Foreshore Park where the Festival takes place from 10am-3pm. There will be lots of entertainment and community services, so it is a great educational event for young and old. Enquiries can be sent to Kate E: [kate.crncevic@mn.catholic.org.au](mailto:kate.crncevic@mn.catholic.org.au) or P: 02 4979 1329

#### **For Our Elders - NAIDOC Week Prayer Service - Sunday 2 July 2023**

You are invited to join us for our 2023 NAIDOC Week Prayer Service from 1pm at the Sacred Heart Cathedral. The service will include an official Welcome to Country with Aunty Sandra Griffin, Awabakal Country. Join with local Elders, including Canon Aunty Di Langham who will lead us through a special reflection. This service is held in collaboration with local Aboriginal and faith communities. A special water ceremony will take place and guests are asked to bring a small container of water from Country along with them. Refreshments and light meal will be served. RSVP by Sunday 25 June via Eventbrite: <https://NAIDOCprayerservice.eventbrite.com.au> or by contacting Kate P: (02) 4979 1329

#### **An evening with Noel Pearson - Sunday 16 July**

From 5pm to 8pm on Sunday 16 July Noel Pearson will host an event in the Toohey Room. Listen to Noel's connection to Aboriginal Spirituality, his work on the Uluru Statement from the Heart and The Voice to Parliament. Concluding with a Q&A panel session that will include Noel, Aunty Louise Campbell (Catholic Schools Office) and Aunty Dianne Langham (Anglican Diocese). Register here: <https://NP2023.eventbrite.com.au>

### **Common Grace, Listen to the Heart, Training Workshop - Tuesday 18 July**

On Tuesday 18 July from 10am until 12.30pm, Common Grace will host a training workshop in the Victor Peters Suite. The event will explore the importance of the Voice to Parliament Referendum. It will spark conversations so you can make an informed decision when voting later in the year. Optional creative element following the session. Register here: <https://listentotheheart.eventbrite.com.au>

### **Parish Employee & Volunteer Safeguarding Training**

As we have mentioned recently 13 Parishes in the Diocese will be randomly audited for Safeguarding compliance.

Fr Greg Barker has offered to conduct three training sessions at Warners Bay

Volunteers from our Parish who require training are welcome to attend the Training Sessions at Warners Bay in July if it will assist their calendars.

**Thursday 13 July 2023 | 3 Sessions - 10am - 2pm - 6.00pm**

**St Mary's Catholic Hall, 2 Bayview Street Warners Bay - plenty of parking is available**

All parish workers are required to attend **Course 2: Safeguarding in Parishes** within 6 months of commencing in their role and every 6 years thereafter.

This training forms part of the **Diocese's mandatory training regime** and is specifically designed to support paid and unpaid helpers undertaking a broad range of ministries in church facilities and out in the community. The training targets the safeguarding needs of faith communities. The course will address:

- the Diocese's Safeguarding Framework policy
- indicators of risk and vulnerability
- indicators of abuse and neglect
- boundaries in ministry
- responding to disclosures
- reporting obligations
- contributing to a 'Safe' culture

### **Refugee Week Prayer Service - Australian Catholic Migrant and Refugee Office**

At 7pm on Tuesday 20 June the Australian Catholic Migrant and Refugee Office will host an online prayer service to commemorate Refugee Week. To register, visit [https://us06web.zoom.us/join/register/tZMof-CpqjwuGdfRunDx\\_8r-xaibfgFddptN#/registration](https://us06web.zoom.us/join/register/tZMof-CpqjwuGdfRunDx_8r-xaibfgFddptN#/registration)

### **Pints with a Purpose: Modern Day Pilgrims**

Join us as we engage with a panel of our Pilgrims from across our diocese who are planning to journey into the Holy Land and on to World Youth Day in Lisbon. Who are they? Why are they going? What are their hopes for the journey? Date: Monday 3 of July Time: 6pm Location: Sydney Junction Hotel Please contact Eliza Beletich for any questions. P: 4931 1228 E: [eliza.beletich@mn.catholic.org.au](mailto:eliza.beletich@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- 6:00pm. Zoom link: <https://mncatholic.zoom.us/j/68191395109>

## SUPPORTING THE CLERGY / 1st Collection

If you would like to make contributions to support the Clergy / 1st Collection please do so at Mass in the BLUE bucket or electronically using the Online Payments button on the Parish Website Home page, Diocese App, Bank Account Name: CCF BSB: 062815 No: 00328161 Ref: 5016 1st Collection or set up a direct debit contact the parish office for this option.

## SUPPORTING OUR PARISH / 2nd Collection

If you would like to make contributions to support our Parish please do so at Mass via the RED bucket or deposit directly into the Parish Account our details are: Account Name: CCF 96014 BSB:062815 Account Number: 00328161 Ref: 5004 2nd Collection or 5004 PG and your Giver Number or Surname, or you can use the Online Payments button on the Parish Website Home page or the Diocese App. If you are considering taking up **planned giving** you may like to know that **a percentage of the contributions are tax deductible**. If you would like to know more or set up planned giving please contact the Parish Office.

WEEKEND ROSTERS			
		<u>THIS WEEK</u>	<u>NEXT WEEK</u>
<u>PRESIDERS</u>	5PM 9.30AM	Mass Mass	Mass Mass
<u>PROCLAIMERS:</u>	5PM 9.30AM	M Melvey M Shamley	U France J Vipan
<u>PSALMIST:</u>	5PM 9.30AM	L Hutchinson J Shamley	K Lendon D Paterson
<u>GIFTS</u>	5PM 9.30AM	J Vipan M Lawrence K Lendon K Tonkin	P Melvey L Hutchinson M Fowler P Melvey
<u>SERVERS</u>	5PM 9.30AM	M Melvey J Lawandos V Paulo	M Melvey F Dyson V Paulo R Lawandos
<u>Av</u>	5PM 9.30AM	J France T Alexander	D Peterson J Vipan
<u>SOUND / VIDEO</u>	5PM 9.30AM	J France J France	J France J France
<u>WELCOMERS</u>	5PM 9.30AM	A Walker G Walker M Melvey P Melvey	P Melvey M Melvey A Walker G Walker
<u>CHURCH CLEANING</u>	COOR MOR	XXXX R Hay	K & F Dunn K Lendon

## UPCOMING FEAST DAYS MEMORIALS AND SOLEMNITIES

THE MOST SACRED HEART OF JESUS— 16TH JUNE  
THE MOST IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY— 17TH JUNE  
SAINT ALOYSIUS GONZAGA— 21ST JUNE  
SAINTS JOHN FISHER AND THOMAS MORE— 22ND JUNE  
THE NATIVITY OF JOHN THE BAPTIST— 24TH JUNE  
SAINT IRENAEUS— 28TH JUNE  
SAINTS PETER AND PAUL— 29TH JUNE  
SAINT THOMAS— 3RD JULY  
SAINT BENEDICT— 11TH JULY  
SAINT BONAVENTURE— 15TH JULY

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

Pam Mullaly, Mary Johnson, Tintumol Thomas,  
Christopher Maloney, Les Findley, Peter Martyn,  
Bernadette Martin, Joan Gillett, Bruce Gillett.

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

Remembrance: Margo Sanden



## 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

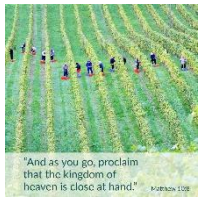
My Jesus,  
I believe that You  
are present in the Most Holy Sacrament.  
I love You above all things,  
and I desire to receive You into my soul.  
Since I cannot at this moment  
receive You sacramentally,  
come at least spiritually into my heart.  
I embrace You as if You were already there and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



**Live stream Mass every Sunday at 9.30am at**  
[www.mn.catholic.org.au/places/live-stream](http://www.mn.catholic.org.au/places/live-stream)

*The Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle has an enduring and 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: 02 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)).*





**SUNDAY PRAYER SERVICE**  
**Eleventh Sunday in Ordinary Time**  
**Year A**  
**Sunday 18 Jun 2023**

**The Introductory Rites**  
**Acknowledgement of Country**

We acknowledge Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples as Australia's First Peoples and the Traditional Owners and Custodians of the land on which we work and live. Our Parish of St John Vianney Morisset is located on the traditional lands of the Awabakal and Darkinjung people. We honour and pay respect to, Elders past, present and emerging. We acknowledge the spiritual culture of all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples across Australia.

**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  
who has raised us to new life.

*A brief period of silence follows.*

**Leader:**

Lord Jesus, you are the eternal shepherd: Lord, have mercy.

**All: Lord, have mercy.**

Christ Jesus, you are the reconciling love of God: Christ, have mercy.

**All: Christ, have mercy.**

Lord Jesus, you call us to proclaim your kingdom: 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.*

O God, strength of those who hope in you,  
graciously hear our pleas,  
and, since without you mortal frailty can do nothing,  
grant us always the help of your grace,  
that in following your commands  
we may please you by our resolve and our deeds.  
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**

**Ex 19:2-6**

A reading from the book of Exodus

*You will be a kingdom of priests, a consecrated nation.*

From Rephidim the Israelites set out again; and when they reached the wilderness of Sinai, there in the wilderness they pitched their camp; there facing the mountain Israel pitched camp.

Moses then went up to God, and the Lord called to him from the mountain, saying, 'Say this to the House of Jacob, declare this to the sons of Israel, "You yourselves have seen what I did with the Egyptians, how I carried you on eagles' wings and brought you to myself. From this you know that now, if you obey my voice and hold fast to my covenant, you of all the nations shall be my very own, for all the earth is mine. I will count you a kingdom of priests, a consecrated nation."'

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

The word of the Lord.

**All reply:**

**Thanks be to God.**

**Responsorial Psalm**

**s 99:2-3. 5. R. v.3**

**(R.) We are his people:  
the sheep of his flock.**

1. Cry with joy to the Lord, all the earth.  
Serve the Lord with gladness.  
Come before him, singing for joy. **(R.)**
2. Know that he, the Lord, is God.  
He made us, we belong to him,  
we are his people, the sheep of his flock. **(R.)**
3. Indeed, how good is the Lord,  
eternal his merciful love.  
He is faithful from age to age. **(R.)**

**Second Reading**

**Rom 5:6-11**

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

*We have been reconciled to God through the death of his Son; we are saved by his life.*

We were still helpless when at his appointed moment Christ died for sinful men. It is not easy to die even for a good man – though of course for someone really worthy, a man might be prepared to die – but what proves that God loves us is that Christ died for us while we were still sinners. Having died to make us righteous, is it likely that he would now fail to save us from God's anger? When we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, we were still enemies; now that we have been reconciled surely we may count on being saved by the life of his Son? Not merely because we have been reconciled but because we are filled with joyful trust in God, through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have already gained our reconciliation.

*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 Matthew.

*All:*

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

**Mt 9:36 – 10:8**

*He summoned his twelve disciples, and sent them out.*

When Jesus saw the crowds he felt sorry for them because they were harassed and dejected, like sheep without a shepherd. Then he said to his disciples, 'The harvest is rich but the labourers are few, so ask the Lord of the harvest to send labourers to his harvest.'

He summoned his twelve disciples, and gave them authority over unclean spirits with power to cast them out and to cure all kinds of diseases and sickness.

These are the names of the twelve apostles: first, Simon who is called Peter, and his brother Andrew; James the son of Zebedee, and his brother John; Philip and Bartholomew; Thomas, and Matthew the tax collector; James the son of Alphaeus, and Thaddaeus; Simon the Zealot and Judas Iscariot, the one who was to betray him. These twelve Jesus sent out, instructing them as follows:

'Do not turn your steps to pagan territory, and do not enter any Samaritan town; go rather to the lost sheep of the House of Israel. And as you go, proclaim that the kingdom of heaven is close at hand. Cure the sick, raise the dead, cleanse the lepers, cast out devils. You received without charge, give without charge.'

*Reader:*

The Gospel of the Lord.

*All:*

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

*All are seated.*

## Reflection on the Word

Q. How would the earliest Jewish-Christians have reacted to the Q. Why has the gospel writer included the description of the crowds before the sending out of the Twelve?

Q. What might it mean that the apostles were to 'proclaim that the kingdom of heaven is close at hand'?

Q. In what way does this commissioning apply to you today? What are you 'sent' to do?

Q. How do you understand the difference between a disciple and an apostle?

## 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: My dear friends, in faith and hope, let us bring our prayers before God.

Reader: That all the baptised will heed the call of Jesus and go out to the world, proclaiming God's kingdom in their words and deeds.

*(pause)*

In your mercy:

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

Reader: That world leaders will work together to bring about peace and justice for all.

*(pause)*

In your mercy:

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

Reader: That communities struggling with the aftermath of natural disasters will not be forgotten.

*(pause)*

In your mercy:

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

Reader: That Pope Francis will make a full recovery from recent surgery and be blessed with ongoing good health.

*(pause)*

In your mercy:

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

Reader: That those who died in the Hunter Valley bus crash will be received into the heavenly kingdom and those who were injured or are grieving for loved ones will know the ongoing care of their communities.

*(pause)*

In your mercy:

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

Reader: That emergency services personnel will be kept safe as they work in dangerous and traumatic situations and be supported as they deal with the aftermath of their ordeals.

*(pause)*

In your mercy:

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

Reader: That governments and communities will work together to bring about an end to homelessness.

*(pause)*

In your mercy:

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

Reader: That our parishes and schools will nurture our young people, giving them guidance and strength as they grow into adulthood.

*(pause)*

In your mercy:

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

Reader: That the sick and those who care for them will be supported by our prayers and assistance.

*(pause)*

In your mercy:

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

Reader: That those who have died will be welcomed into the kingdom of heaven.

*(pause)*

In your mercy:

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

Leader: Loving God, you sent your Son to spread the Good News of your Kingdom. Help us to answer the call to be labourers in the field. 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:**

Through the resurrection of his Son  
God has redeemed us and made us his children.  
May the Lord bless us with joy and fill us with fruits of the Spirit.

**All make the sign of the cross during the blessing.**

**All:**

**Amen.**

### Dismissal

**Leader:**

Let us go in peace. Alleluia.

**All:**

**Thanks be to God.**

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## The real impact of going green and why we should care

Sustainable living, going green, solar powered, eco-friendly, energy efficient – different environmentally sustainable initiatives and terms seem to pop up regularly. It's a challenge to keep up with the vocabulary, let alone understand the detail and jargon as well as the real benefit that can be provided.

**LIZ BAKER** PUBLISHED JUNE 03, 2023

We know it's the right thing to do but how is it making a real difference?

Mark Mazzitello, the Catholic Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle's Manager Strategic Assets is over-seeing its sustainability plan, which has been endorsed by leaders across the organisation.

"There are a huge variety of environmental initiatives these days and even when you narrow it down to something specific like energy there are still many contract types and different accreditations. In fact, people can be quite sceptical," Mr Mazzitello said.

"Like with many things in environmental sustainability you don't necessarily see all the benefits today - it's about planning for the future and that's just as important," he said.

Pope Francis' second encyclical letter, *Laudato Si'* encouraged Catholics to think about this future and care for our common home. Pope Francis laments environmental degradation and global warming and calls all people of the world to take swift and unified global action.

The Diocese has acted and set targets around energy and greenhouse gas emissions reduction, water, waste and recycling, transport, biodiversity, sustainable design and more.

The plan set a target to deliver 100% renewable electricity across the organisation's large sites.

Ray Bowen, Head of Property for the Diocese said, "We will achieve 100% GreenPower across all our agency sites from 1 July 2023. Many organisations are working towards this goal but we understand we're the first Diocese in the country to be registered as having 100% Greenpower for our CatholicCare, St Nicholas, schools and Diocesan commercial properties."

Operating 59 schools, 12 St Nicholas Early Education centres and many other community services and support offices, including some under construction - to have achieved 100% GreenPower is making a real difference.

Run by the NSW Office of Energy and Climate Change the GreenPower program independently audits electricity providers to make sure the right amount of renewable energy is fed into the grid on the customers' behalf.

Mr Bowen said, "We chose GreenPower because we wanted a truly renewable resource. The purchase of GreenPower guarantees the electricity is coming from renewable energy sources that meet strict

environmental criteria. We can be sure that the grid electricity our business is using has net-zero emissions."

Another of the Diocese's targets was set to reduce electricity consumption across schools. New LED lighting is progressively being installed in schools and at one primary school alone, there has been a 26% reduction in electricity.

But it's not all reduced statistics and accreditations. Why should we really care, what's the impact?

"At its core, sustainability is about being more efficient with our resources," Mr Mazzitello said.

"We've been inspired by *Laudato Si'* to make change and real impact."

"With nearly 60 schools the impact of our lighting project alone is quite significant. Combined with the installation of PV solar across all schools, further efficiencies will be gained. This means each school has the potential to see reduced operating costs and those savings can be channelled to additional education programs."

"The real intent means we're supporting our students and reducing our demand on the grid by up to 25% in many Diocesan communities. This is good for the environment but really helps people too, particularly in rural areas. As resources become reduced there's no doubt we're doing our bit to contribute to the stability on the future grid."

Read more in the Catholic Diocese of Maitland Newcastle's Sustainability Plan on our website. [mn.catholic.org.au/sustainabilityplan](https://mn.catholic.org.au/sustainabilityplan)

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