



**St John  
Vianney**  
Parish Morisset



## **TWENTY-NINTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME YEAR A 22 OCTOBER 2023**

*In the Gospel story, the Pharisees pose the question to Jesus: "Is it lawful to pay tax to Caesar?" Jesus brilliantly replies, "Repay to Caesar what belongs to Caesar and to God what belongs to God. The Pharisees were amazed at the answer, and they went away."*

*That's a diplomatic way of saying, 'They slinked off with their tails between their legs.'*

*Getting our priorities straight is what Jesus is pushing us to do in the Gospel. Give to Caesar what is his. Many of those Caesars of our lives do have real importance and some rightful claim on our time and devotion. But keep them in the proper perspective. Don't make them our be all and end all.*

*Every Christian living in the modern world is faced with difficult decisions. What ever else we give to Caesar , let us make sure that we do not give him our conscience*



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:** Uta France  
John France

**PRIEST SUPERVISOR:** Fr Joseph Figuardo  
**SACRAMENTAL PRIEST:** Fr John Purnell

**PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL:** Juliet Hutchins  
Mal Melvey  
Pam Melvey  
Kerry Lendon  
Rod Hay

**PARISH SECRETARY:** 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)  
(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)  
(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 :**

Saturday	21st October 5pm Mass—Cooranbong
Sunday	22nd October 9.30am Mass—Morisset
Tuesday	24th October 9.30am Liturgy—Morisset
Saturday	28th October 5pm Mass—Cooranbong
Sunday	29th October 9.30am Mass—Morisset
Tuesday	31st October 9.30am Liturgy—Morisset
Wednesday	1st November 9.30am Mass—Morisset
Saturday	4th November 5pm Family Mass—Morisset
Sunday	5th November 9.30am Mass—Morisset
Tuesday	7th November 9.30am Liturgy—Morisset
Saturday	11th November 5pm Mass—Cooranbong
Sunday	12th November 9.30am Mass—Morisset
Tuesday	14th November 9.30am Liturgy—Morisset

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## Reflection for The Twenty—Ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A — 22nd October 2023

We all know we have to pay our rates and taxes - we are in strife if we don't - but, more importantly than that, our governments (Federal, State or Local), would not be able to function without an income. On a superficial level it might seem that Christ's message in the Gospel is just that - we have to pay our taxes - but there is a much more important message than that.

By this time Christ had developed quite a reputation as a teacher and the Pharisees, the traditional teachers and interpreters of the law of the Torah, were threatened by him and his potential to challenge their authority and upset the status quo. They were determined to destroy him and so set a trap. Palestine had been conquered by the Romans and they and their tax collectors were detested by the Jews. When asked by the Pharisees if it was right to pay taxes to Caesar, Jesus would alienate the Jew by saying "Yes" and bring down the wrath of the Roman overlords if he said "No". Instead he gave them an answer to make them think. After they showed him a coin bearing the image of Caesar, he replied, "Very well, give back to Caesar what belongs to Caesar - and to God what belongs to God". What message is there in this for us? Maybe Christ's answer can help us get our priorities right?

We may also be helped when we recall another conversation Christ had with the Pharisees when, once again, they were testing him. When he was asked which is the most important commandment in the Law, he replied, "*You shall love the Lord, your God with all your heart, with all your soul and with all your mind*" and added there is another one like it, "*You shall love your neighbour as yourself.*" (Matt. 22:36-40.) So we have our answer and the main message of the Gospel today: God must come first.

As baptised Christians and members of the Body of Christ, we seek to live as Christ asked us to live. Paul praised the Thessalonians for the way in which they were living as followers of Christ, showing their **faith in action**, working for **love** and persevering through **hope**. And this is how we are called to live in our families, in our community, in our country and in our world.

Most of us pray The Lord's Prayer quite frequently and each time say, "Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on Earth as it is in Heaven." If we stop to think about those words, we realise that Christ, through His Death on the Cross, His Resurrection and His Ascension into Heaven, has already established His Kingdom here on earth. Christ is in us and with us and it is now our responsibility to foster this in the way we live our lives, paying homage to God first and then showing love, compassion and respect in our relationships with others.

Isaiah reminds us that each of us has an intimate relationship with God: "I have called you by your name..There is no other God besides me..apart from me, all is nothing." Each person is deserving of respect, loved by God, made in the image and likeness of God. Let us endeavour to be true disciples, loving God and loving our neighbour, contributing to the well-being of civil society and so promoting the Kingdom of God. Pam Melvey

### Catholic Mission Appeal

The Annual Catholic Mission Appeal will be held this weekend the 21st and 22nd October. Envelopes will be on the seats.

### St V DePaul Christmas Appeal

The Annual St Vincent de Paul Christmas Appeal will be held on the weekend of the 18th and 19th of November.

### Some Points to Ponder.

Traditions have always been an important dimension of celebrating faith. Each age is a time of special grace, including our age of high technology.

#### Did you Know? -

**Creed-** A statement of belief in the church's main teachings. Creeds were generally used in the liturgy because Christians felt the need to express their belief in ceremonial form.

**Apostles' Creed:** A summary of Christian teaching named after the Apostles because it contains twelve statements of faith.

**Nicene Creed:**

A summary of Christian teachings drawn up by the bishops at the Council of Constantinople (381ce). The bishops took the creed of the Council of Nicea and made additions to it. It is the Creed that Catholics recite when they express their faith at Mass on Sunday.

### Feast of All Saints

To celebrate All Saints Day, (Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> November) Mass will be held in the Morisset Church at 9.30am.

### Melbourne Cup

On Tuesday 7th November 2023 there will be a Melbourne Cup Lunch, in the Callinan Centre commencing at 12.30pm for sweeps, and Lunch will be served at 1pm. Cost is \$20, and numbers will be capped at 40 people.

Marcia and Michell will be at Mass to take your name if you would like to come. There will be a prize for the best hat / fascinator.



**Hearts on Fire**  
**FEET ON THE MOVE**

**catholic mission**

Free call: 1800 257 296  
[catholicmission.org.au/timor](http://catholicmission.org.au/timor)

This week Catholic Mission will offer the opportunity to be part of a life-changing program which aims to address gaps in medical care, and provide families with essential health care and knowledge, equipping them with the confidence to act and autonomy over their health and well-being.

**The Maria Auxiliadora Clinic is a vital project for the Salesian Sisters and the Church in Venilale. Since its establishment, the clinic has provided life-saving treatment for families in need, like Petrolina's, whose daughter Vitoria was found to have tuberculosis. But, with an increase in the demand for treatment, the Sisters resources can only carry them so far.**

Please give generously today to help continue this life-giving program by using the appeal envelope, going online at [catholicmission.org.au/timor](http://catholicmission.org.au/timor), or scanning the QR code. Your gift will also help many other similar Church-run mission programs around the world.

## **Safeguarding Standard 7 ONGOING EDUCATION AND TRAINING**

Personnel are equipped with knowledge, skills and awareness to keep children and adults safe through information, ongoing education and training.

Standard 7 emphasises the importance of all personnel being aware of the entity's safeguarding policies and procedures. It requires relevant personnel to receive training on the nature and indicators of child abuse, particularly organisational abuse, and how to create safe environments. It encourages the continuing development of practical skills in protecting children and adults at risk and responding to disclosures.

### **November**

The whole month of November, has traditionally been dedicated to the theme of those who have died. The month begins with the feast of All Saints on November 1 and the next day is the feast of All Souls. This has continued throughout the centuries, and one of the most ancient customs related to respect for the dead is to visit graves and pray there in memory of their loved ones.

### **Advance Notice**

The month of October has five Sundays. This means that on the 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday weekend, the Vigil Mass (Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> October) will be celebrated at Cooranbong by Fr John Purnell.

### **First Aid Equipment**

If you need to use First Aid equipment, in either of our churches for whatever reason, it is kept in the sacristy at both churches. There is also an Automatic Electronic Defibrillator (AED) permanently kept in the Morisset Sacristy. This AED is also taken to Cooranbong whenever there is a function held there.

### **24th Annual Mass Celebrating Diverse Learning**

Please join us for the 24th Annual Mass Celebrating Diverse Learning, where everyone's unique and God-given gifts will be acknowledged in a celebration of inclusion and diversity.

Date: Sunday 29 October Mass: 2.00pm- 2.45pm Afternoon tea: 2.45pm- 3.30pm Location: St Mary's Church, 2 Bayview Street, Warners Bay RSVP: Not required, however for more information or specific requirements contact Lizzie Watkin on [lizzie.watkin@mn.catholic.edu.au](mailto:lizzie.watkin@mn.catholic.edu.au) to discuss your needs.

### **Position Vacant – Hospital Chaplain – John Hunter Hospital**

The Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle is looking to appoint a Catholic Hospital Chaplain to John Hunter Hospital. The purpose of this position is to provide Chaplaincy and Pastoral Care services to the patients, their families and staff at the John Hunter Hospital and other health facilities that exist on that site. The Catholic Chaplain provides spiritual and pastoral care and emotional support on behalf of the faith community.

For more information about this position please go to the Careers section on the diocesan website: [www.mn.catholic.org.au/about/office/pastoral-ministries/](http://www.mn.catholic.org.au/about/office/pastoral-ministries/) or contact Teresa Brierley on 4979 1157.

### **The Gospel of Mark**

Is a treasure trove for the nurturing and nourishing of our faith. Mark brings us face-to-face with the One who came to serve and not to be served, to give his life as a ransom for many (Mark 10:45).

But what does Jesus' service look like according to this Gospel? What can we learn? And is any of it still relevant for the

world we live in today?

A day with Debra Snoddy to explore the Gospel of Mark will be held on Wednesday 15th November 2023 in the Toohey Room 841 Hunter Street Newcastle West Between 9.30am and 3pm.

Explore the Gospel with Dr Debra Snoddy, a lecturer in biblical studies at the Catholic Institute of Sydney a partner of the University of Notre Dame Australia. As we look forward to the year when the Gospel of Mark takes pride of place in our liturgy, Debra promises to inform you, nourish you and challenge you to hear Mark's words in ways old and new.

The day will include an overview of the Gospel and a detailed treatment of some of the most illuminating texts from the Gospel of Mark.

Book your free ticket at: <https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/gospel-of-mark-tickets-699335259587>

### **Advent 2023: With Anticipation and Joy**

We are called during this holy time to wait with anticipation knowing the joys of what is to come with the arrival of Christ. With Anticipation and Joy is a Diocesan resource that invites all members of the community to gather a circle of people – family, friends, colleagues, ministry teams to reflect mystagogically on the Advent Gospels and associated artworks.

This is an opportunity to encounter Christ where we are, to pay attention to what Christ reveals in the scripture and the living tradition of our faith, to share this, to connect it to our life now, and to be changed by it.

To access the resource, go to:

<https://www.mn.catholic.org.au/church-mission/catholic-life/liturgy/liturgical-year/>

### **Christian Meditation**

#### **The Contemplative Pathway: Where is Meditation Leading Us?**

Meditators are always trying to go into greater silence. John Carroll will explore the benefits of this. There will also be a session on practical ideas for incorporating meditation into a busy life. At St James School Hall, Vista Parade, Kotara On Saturday November 11th, 9.00am to 12 noon. Cost: \$10.00 Morning Tea Provided RSVP: [manneuskelly@hotmail.com](mailto:manneuskelly@hotmail.com) or 0407 436 808

### **St Joseph's Men Newcastle**

Calling all men to a talk on the Rosary- A Spiritual Weapon. Come along to hear from St Joseph's Men Newcastle Founder, Curtis Mahoney as he talks about the power of the Rosary @ The Sydney Junction Hotel, Hamilton on Monday 23 October from 6pm. Free entry and meals are available at your own cost.

### **Summer School of Evangelisation (Sydney): 7-14th January 2024, Mt Carmel Retreat Centre, Varroville NSW**

Summer School is a week-long, live-in, life-changing retreat featuring praise and worship, inspiring talks, engaging liturgy, time to chill & learn and more in the midst of a community of 150+ young people aged 16-35. Registrations open 31 October. Register by 30 November to receive early bird rates (concession \$525/adult \$625). More info: [contact@summerschool.org.au](mailto:contact@summerschool.org.au). Bookings: [summerschool.org.au](http://summerschool.org.au)

### **Pope Francis' prayer intention for October 2023**

That the Church may adopt listening and dialogue as a life-style at every level, and allow herself to be guided by the Holy Spirit towards the peripheries of the world.

### 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 BSB:062815 Account Number: 00328161 one of the following Payment References are required by CCF for all deposits: 5004 or 5004 + SURNAME or 5004 + PG + your Giver Number, or 5004 + PG + 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	K Lendon J Vipan	J Vipan D Whitten
<u>PSALMIST:</u>	5PM 9.30AM	M Foo D Peterson	H White J Shamley
<u>GIFTS</u>	5PM 9.30AM	G Hutchinson L Hutchinson M Melvey P Melvey	J Vipan B Cox A Walker G Walker
<u>SERVERS</u>	5PM 9.30AM	M Melvey F Dyson J Lawandos R Lawandos	M Melvey V Paulo C Lawandos
<u>Av</u>	5PM 9.30AM	M Foo M Fowler	D Peterson M Foo
<u>WELCOMERS</u>	5PM 9.30AM	P Melvey A Walker G Walker	H White P Melvey P Herbert
<u>CHURCH CLEANING</u>	COOR MOR	M Shamley D Whitten	P Stewart P Herbert T Alexander

**Our Parish supports The Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle in its zero-tolerance approach to abuse. Every one of us must each day commit ourselves individually and collectively to safeguard each child and every vulnerable person to whom we minister and interact with. If you have any concerns for a child or vulnerable adult please contact the Office of Safeguarding P: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).**

### UPCOMING FEAST DAYS MEMORIALS AND SOLEMINITIES

SAINTS SIMON AND JUDE (F) - 28TH OCT  
ALL SAINTS (S) - 1ST NOV  
THE COMMEMORATION OF ALL THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED— 2ND NOV  
SAINT CHARLES BORROMEO (M) - 4TH NOV  
THE DEDICATION OF THE LATERAN BASILICA (F) - 9TH NOV  
SAINT LEO THE GREAT (M) - 10TH NOV  
SAINT MARTIN OF TOURS (M) - 11TH NOV  
SAINT ELIZABETH OF HUNGARY (M) - 17TH NOV  
PRESENTATION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY (M) - 21ST NOV

**Please pray for all those who are sick: in hospital or at home, especially those living with a life threatening disease:**

Margo Cluff, Clare Wallington, Donna Hazzard, Pam Mullaly, Mary Johnson, Tintumol Thomas, 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.**

### 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

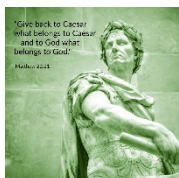
My Jesus,  
I believe that You  
are present in the Most Holy Sacrament.  
I love You above all things,  
and I desire to receive You into my soul.  
Since I cannot at this moment  
receive You sacramentally,  
come at least spiritually into my heart.  
I embrace You as if You were already there and 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)**



We are committed to the  
**NATIONAL CATHOLIC  
SAFEGUARDING STANDARDS**



## SUNDAY PRAYER SERVICE

### Twenty-ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A Sunday 22 Oct 2023

#### The Introductory Rites

##### Acknowledgement of Country

We Acknowledge the Traditional Custodians who have walked upon and cared for this land for thousands of years. We acknowledge the continued deep spiritual attachment and relationship of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples to this country and commit ourselves to the ongoing journey of reconciliation. We especially acknowledge the Awabakal and Darkinjung peoples who were the original custodians of the land this parish sits on.

#### Mission Sunday

This weekend we celebrate World Mission Sunday, for this year's theme Pope Francis has chosen a theme inspired by the story of the disciples on the way to Emmaus, in the Gospel of Luke (cf. 24:13-35): "Hearts on fire, feet on the move".

Catholic Mission offers us the opportunity to be part of a life-changing program which aims to address gaps in medical care, and provide families with essential health care and knowledge, equipping them with the confidence to act and autonomy over their health and well-being.

The Maria Auxiliadora Clinic is a vital project for the Salesian Sisters and the Church in Venilale. Since its establishment, the clinic has provided life-saving treatment for families in need, like Petrolina's, whose daughter Vitoria was found to have tuberculosis. But, with an increase in the demand for treatment, the Sisters resources can only carry them so far.

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#### 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 King of glory: Lord, have mercy.

**All: Lord, have mercy.**

Christ Jesus, you call each of us by name: Christ, have mercy.

**All: Christ, have mercy.**

Lord Jesus, without you we are nothing: 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, who have revealed  
that peacemakers are to be called your children,  
grant, we pray,  
that we may work without ceasing to establish that justice  
which alone ensures true and lasting peace.  
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

**Isaiah 45:1.4-6**

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

*I have taken the hand of Cyrus to subdue nations before  
his countenance.*

Thus says the Lord to his anointed, to Cyrus,  
whom he has taken by his right hand  
to subdue nations before him  
and strip the loins of kings,  
to force gateways before him  
that their gates be closed no more:

It is for the sake of my servant Jacob,  
of Israel my chosen one,  
that I have called you by your name,  
conferring a title though you do not know me.  
I am the Lord, unrivalled;  
there is no other God besides me.

Though you do not know me, I arm you  
that men may know from the rising to the setting of the sun  
that, apart from me, all is nothing.

**All reply:**

**Thanks be to God.**

## Responsorial Psalm

**Ps 95:1. 3-5. 7-10. R. v.7**

**(R.) Give the Lord glory and honour.**

1. O sing a new song to the Lord,  
sing to the Lord all the earth.  
Tell among the nations his glory  
and his wonders among all the peoples. **(R.)**
2. The Lord is great and worthy of praise,  
to be feared above all gods;  
the gods of the heathens are naught.  
It was the Lord who made the heavens. **(R.)**
3. Give the Lord, you families of peoples,  
give the Lord glory and power,  
give the Lord the glory of his name.  
Bring an offering and enter his courts. **(R.)**
4. Worship the Lord in his temple.  
O earth, tremble before him.  
Proclaim to the nations: 'God is king.'  
He will judge the peoples in fairness. **(R.)**

## Second Reading

**1 Thessalonians 1:1-5**

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

*We are mindful of your faith, hope, and love.*

From Paul, Silvanus and Timothy, to the Church in Thessalonika which is in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ; wishing you grace and peace from God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. We always mention you in our prayers and thank God for you all, and constantly remember before God our Father how you have shown your faith in action, worked for love and persevered through hope, in our Lord Jesus Christ.

We know, brothers, that God loves you and that you have been chosen, because when we brought the Good News to you, it came to you not only as words, but as power and as the Holy Spirit and as utter conviction.

**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.**

**Matthew 22:1-14**

*Whomsoever you find invite to the wedding.*

Jesus said to the chief priests and elders of the people: 'The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a feast for his son's wedding. He sent his servants to call those who had been invited, but they would not come. Next he sent some more servants. "Tell those who have been invited" he said "that I have my banquet all prepared, my oxen and fattened cattle have been slaughtered, everything is ready. Come to the wedding." But they were not interested: one went off to his farm, another to his business, and the rest seized his servants, maltreated them and killed them. The king was furious. He dispatched his troops, destroyed those murderers and burnt their town. Then he said to his servants, "The wedding is ready; but as those who were invited proved to be unworthy, go to the crossroads in the town and invite everyone you can find to the wedding." So these servants went out onto the roads and collected together everyone they could find, bad and good alike; and the wedding hall was filled with guests. When the king came in to look at the guests he noticed one man who was not wearing a wedding

garment, and said to him, "How did you get in here, my friend, without a wedding garment?" And the man was silent. Then the king said to the attendants, "Bind him hand and foot and throw him out into the dark, where there will be weeping and grinding of teeth." For many are called, but few are chosen.'

**Reader:**

The Gospel of the Lord.

**All:**

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

*All are seated.*

## Reflection on the Word

Q. The Pharisees deliberately set out to trap Jesus. Why did they fear him?

Q. How can we apply today Jesus' words, 'give back to Caesar what belongs to Caesar – and to God what belongs to God'?

Q. What are some of the 'obligations' of society that 'get in the way' of giving to God what belongs to God?

Q. In what ways can you better give to God what belongs to God?

## 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 thankful hearts let us bring our prayers before God.

**Reader:** That our Holy Father Pope N. will lead the Church to stand against injustice and suffering in the world. In your mercy:

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

**Reader:** That leaders of nations will responsibly use the power entrusted to them. In your mercy:

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

**Reader:** That societies all over the world will strive for fairness and equality. In your mercy:

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

**Reader:** That we will be generous in our support of the missionary work of the Church, providing opportunities and hope to the poorest of the poor. In your mercy:

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

Reader: That the violence between Israel and Palestine will give way to sincere dialogue, leading to peaceful and enduring solutions. In your mercy:

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

Reader: That those who have been displaced by violence in Ukraine, Gaza and other war-torn places will find safe and welcoming refuge. In your mercy:

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

Reader: That the participants in the Synod on Synodality, currently meeting in Rome, will work together in a spirit of prayer and hopefulness as they consider the themes of communion, participation, and mission. In your mercy:

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

Reader: That students preparing for exams will remain calm and focused and not be overwhelmed by fear or anxiety. In your mercy:

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

Reader: That our parish community will be welcoming of refugees and migrants. In your mercy:

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

Reader: That the sick will be shown compassion and understanding, especially those who are dear to us. In your mercy:

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

Reader: That those who have died will enjoy eternal life with God, especially those were dear to us. In your mercy:

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

Leader: Loving God, your ways are truth and life. Hear our prayers and help us to keep our hearts set on your kingdom that is to come. 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.

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### Children's Week 2023

**Children's Week running from Saturday 21 - Sunday 29 October 2023, is a national celebration of children's rights, talents and citizenship.**

**CATHOLIC SCHOOLS OFFICE PUBLISHED OCTOBER 17, 2023**

The Children's Week National Theme for 2023 is based on Article 31 of United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC): Children have the right to relax, play and to join in a wide range of leisure activities.

Acknowledging and celebrating Children's Week aims to highlight children and young people's right to play, rest, engage in cultural life, the arts and recreational activities and the fundamental role it has in their learning. This project was initiated to support the implementation of the Wellbeing Framework and Early Learning philosophy that advocates for student voice and agency in the Catholic Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle.

Celebrating Children's Week as a community is a great way to share the key messages of Children's Week with the wider community, raising awareness of children's rights and the work of the UNCRC.

Click on the below to know a little more about Children's Week and be inspired by the many activities that our students partake in whilst at school and at home.

<https://youtu.be/Ctctm11lCZo>



## LITURGY MATTERS: Mystery and Mission

On the 28-30 September members of the Maitland-Newcastle Diocesan Liturgy Council and other members of the diocesan community descended upon Brisbane for the National Liturgy and Music Conference, along with 500 others from around Australia and the Pacific.

**FIONA DUQUE** PUBLISHED OCTOBER 17, 2023

The conference was a joint endeavour of the Australian Pastoral Musicians Network (APMN) and the National Liturgical Council (NLC) of the Australian Bishops' Conference. The theme of this year's conference was "Mystery & Mission – The Art of Liturgical Celebration".

The conference coincided with the 60 years since Vatican II's *Constitution of the Sacred Liturgy* was promulgated by Pope Paul VI. What a perfect time to come together in our rich diversity – liturgists, musicians and educators – to share the opportunity for deep personal and professional formation and learning. Everyone left feeling energised for the future and full of hope and purpose, albeit somewhat challenged.

Some of the highlights included:

- Thought provoking keynote and guest speakers including Timothy O'Malley (USA), Sarah Hart (musician, USA), Rev Dr Tom Elich (*Liturgy Brisbane*), Associate Professor Maeve Louise Heaney (ACU), Dr Jason McFarland (ACU) and Cathy Murrowood (ACU).
- Inspirational experiences in prayer and liturgy, through the Morning and Evening Prayer of the Church and the enlivened Conference Mass in St Stephen's Cathedral
- First Nations powerful integration of spirituality, ritual and symbol throughout.
- Workshops on liturgical music, liturgy as evangelisation, liturgies with children, families and young people, liturgical proclamation, copyright, hospitality and masterclasses for musicians.

Attendees from the Church of Maitland-Newcastle shared the following reflections:

"To move towards mission, we need to seek connection and 'shift our gaze outwards'; we are called to be an evangelising church which means reflecting on how we are making connections in the pursuit of social transformation, particularly in schools; as *Evangelii Gaudium* (The Joy of the Gospel) (217-237) states: "time is greater than space, realities are greater than ideas, unity prevails over conflict, and the whole is greater

than the part" - best quote ever from Pope Francis (especially for a physics teacher!)" – Amber Carter

"Seek connection, not just connection by evangelising but with our own teams within the diocese. Lean on each other, learn what our neighbouring parishes are doing. At Michael Mangan's talk - 'family friendly liturgy' he mentioned a way to connect is through 'food, fun and friendships'. He also mentioned about not only welcoming new families but following up the next week with how their week has been" – Monique Crick

"A rethinking of the 'secular' age, a fresh understanding of the merging of Aboriginal spirituality with Christian understanding and the liturgy, and the importance of the document *Desiderio Desideravi* (the Apostolic Letter from Pope Francis on the Liturgical Formation of the People of God) and a decision to introduce this to the local liturgical group" – Cathy White

"It was amazing to be a part of the mass and vespers. You hear it all the time, that the Catholic church is universal, but being there, where everyone, truly were full and active participants of the celebration, it brings about a feeling of wonder and awe. Keynote speaker, Tom Elich reflected on the last 60 years since Sacrosanctum Concilium and it dawned on me that the church has been navigating ever-changing waters, with obstacles to sometimes avoid and sometimes tackle. We have come a long way since then and we still have a long way to go. I am greatly appreciative of the friendship and mentorship of each member of the Diocesan Liturgy Council (DLC) here at Maitland-Newcastle. I had not realised how much 'fun' we have but it became apparent when we delivered our workshop "What the hell are we doing and why?". – Daniel Lee

"The one takeaway that we thought was most important to us as Music educators is the fact that music plays such an important role in building relationships within the whole school. Music ministry is so reliant on the music team and the music teachers that the rest of the school have no connection with this. We are working further toward including and inviting our whole college to be part of the music in liturgies, prayer services and Masses. We walked away with specific ideas, strategies and practical activities to help us build this. We got to know some very successful composers and musicians and we also play the music of some of these composers. We also spoke with teachers within schools from around Australia and we now have contacts for anything that we may need as a foundation school. The variety of music that is available to us as a school to engage the youth more. We were actively involved during our workshops – practical advice and so much creativity. - Louiza Mavros and Elyse North

You can see we all had the most amazing experience. We look forward to the next conference in 2025. Maybe we will see you there?