



The Catholic Community of

# MacKillop Parish

St Mary Immaculate Church  
CHARLESTOWN

St Paul's Church  
GATESHEAD

St John Vianney Church  
REDHEAD



## FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER YEAR C 18 MAY 2025

### Church Contacts

**Parish Priest & Vocations Director:** Rev Fr Anthony (Tony) Potts  
**Parish Deacon:** Rev Mr Anton Perera  
**Parish Secretaries:** Mrs Maryanne Barry  
Miss Bridget Voigt  
**Promoter of Safeguarding:** Mr Brad Fitzsimmons  
**Columbarium Manager:** Mr Brad Fitzsimmons  
**Parish Venue Bookings:** Mr Brad Fitzsimmons  
0409 910 065  
**Sacramental Convenor:** Miss Bridget Voigt  
**Baptism Preparation:** Mrs Donna Nichols  
**Sisters of St Joseph:** Sr Brigid Linehan rsj

### Liturgical Times - 5<sup>th</sup> Week of Easter

Monday 19 May	9:00am	Mass	Charlestown
Tuesday 20 May	5:30pm	Mass	Charlestown
Wednesday 21 May	9:30am	Mass	Charlestown
Thursday 22 May	9:00am	Mass	Gateshead
Friday 23 May	9:00am	Mass	Gateshead
Our Lady Help of Christians, Solemnity			
Saturday 24 May	9:00am	Mass	Charlestown
	9:30am	Benediction	Charlestown
	10:00am	Reconciliation	Charlestown

### St Mary of the Cross Parish Hub

**Address:** 7 Milson Street  
(PO Box 107)  
Charlestown NSW 2290  
**Phone:** 02 4943 4153  
**After Hours:** 02 4021 1906  
**Email:** stmarythecross@mn.catholic.org.au  
**Website:** mackillopcharlestown.org.au  
**Office Hours:** Monday-Friday, 9:00am-4:00pm

### SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER YEAR C

WORLD CHILDREN'S DAY

Saturday 24 May	6:00pm	Mass	Charlestown
Sunday 25 May	8:00am	Mass	Charlestown
	9:30am	Mass	Gateshead

**NB:** Eucharistic Adoration will occur for one hour prior to every Mass, except on Saturday mornings.

### Catholic Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle

**Address:** 841 Hunter Street  
Newcastle West NSW 2302  
**Phone/Fax:** 02 4979 1200 / 02 4979 1119  
**Email:** chancery@mn.catholic.org.au  
**Website:** mn.catholic.org.au

### Safeguarding

#### Our Children and Vulnerable Adults

The Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle and MacKillop Parish have an abiding commitment to promote the safety, welfare and wellbeing of children and vulnerable adults. Information brochures are available in the foyer to the churches. If you have any concerns for a child or vulnerable adult, contact the Office of Safeguarding via P 02 4979 1390 or [Echildprotection@mn.catholic.org.au](mailto:Echildprotection@mn.catholic.org.au)  
For further information visit:  
**Website:** [www.officeofsafeguarding.org.au](http://www.officeofsafeguarding.org.au)  
**Complaints:** <https://officeofsafeguarding.org.au/making-a-complaint/>

### Please Pray For:

**Sick:** Jenny Phillips, Derek Orrin, Anne Standing, David Ellis, Lucy Bridge, Sarah Williams, Helen Davies, Timothy Brown, Tim Gearing, Peter John Evans, Jane Mcvicar, Pauline Williams, Emelia D'Aquisto, Margaret Wright, Emma Walsh, Cynthia McMahon, Otilie Marie Sheens, Glory Ivanfy, Brad Fitzsimmons, Archie Huxley, Jodie Bell, Celene Denholm, Mark Evans, Peter Corcoran (*Once the person is well again, would you kindly inform the Parish Office*).

**Recently Deceased:** Juanito Baustista

**Anniversaries:** Loden Howes

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



**PARISH MISSION STATEMENT:** We strive to be a united community celebrating our faith in Jesus; inclusive and hospitable; compassionate and forgiving; committed to the life and mission of the parish.

# This Sunday's Scripture Readings

## First Reading

### Acts of the Apostles 14: 21-27

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

***They assembled the church and gave an account of all that God had done with them.***

Paul and Barnabas went back through Lystra and Iconium to Antioch. They put fresh heart into the disciples, encouraging them to persevere in the faith. 'We all have to experience many hardships' they said 'before we enter the kingdom of God.' In each of these churches they appointed elders, and with prayer and fasting they commended them to the Lord in whom they had come to believe.

They passed through Pisidia and reached Pamphylia. Then after proclaiming the word at Perga they went down to Attalia and from there sailed for Antioch, where they had originally been commended to the grace of God for the work they had now completed.

On their arrival they assembled the church and gave an account of all that God had done with them, and how he had opened the door of faith to the pagans.

## The word of the Lord.

## Responsorial Psalm

### Ps 144:8-13. R.cf.v.1

**(R.) I will praise your name for ever, my king and my God.**

1. The Lord is kind and full of compassion, slow to anger, abounding in love. How good is the Lord to all, compassionate to all his creatures. **(R.)**
2. All your creatures shall thank you, O Lord, and your friends shall repeat their blessing. They shall speak of the glory of your reign and declare your might, O God, to make known to men your mighty deeds and the glorious splendour of your reign. **(R.)**
3. Yours is an everlasting kingdom; your rule lasts from age to age. **(R.)**

## Second Reading

### Revelation 21: 1-5

A reading from the book of the Apocalypse

***He will wipe away all the tears from their eyes.***

I, John, saw a new heaven and a new earth; the first heaven and the first earth had disappeared now, and there was no longer any sea. I saw the holy city, and the new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven, as beautiful as a bride all dressed for her husband. Then I heard a loud voice call from the throne, 'You see this city? Here God lives among men. He will make his home among them; they shall be his

people, and he will be their God; his name is God-with-them. He will wipe away all tears from their eyes; there will be no more death, and no more mourning or sadness. The world of the past has gone.'

Then the One sitting on the throne spoke: 'Now I am making the whole of creation new.'

## The word of the Lord.

## Gospel Acclamation

### John 13:34

Alleluia, alleluia!

I give you a new commandment:

Love one another as I have loved you.

Alleluia!

## Gospel

### John 13: 31-35

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

***I give you a new commandment: love one another.***

When Judas had gone Jesus said:

'Now has the Son of Man been glorified, and in him God has been glorified. If God has been glorified in him, God will in turn glorify him in himself, and will glorify him very soon. My little children, I shall not be with you much longer. I give you a new commandment: love one another; just as I have loved you, you also must love one another. By this love you have for one another, everyone will know that you are my disciples.'

## The Gospel of the Lord.

### FAITH MATTERS: Celebrating the 1700th Anniversary of the Nicene Creed

The Catholic Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle's Mission & Evangelisation team invites you to a premium formation offering with Associate Professor Joel Hodge, National Head, School of Theology, Australian Catholic University, Celebrating the 1700th Anniversary of the Nicene Creed. With 2033 only eight years away (2000 years since the death and resurrection of Christ) it is amazing to consider how far Christianity has grown since that time. It is now a fundamental element within many societies, cultures and a way of existence for more than 2 billion people across the world.

**When:** Friday, 23 May

Session One – 3:30-5:30pm (for those not working or travelling a distance)

Session Two – 6:00pm-8:00pm (for those who wish to attend after work)

**Where:** St John the Baptist Shrine, Maitland

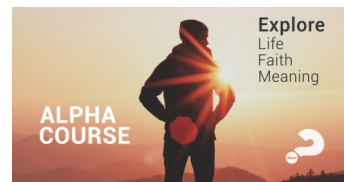
# News and Events

## Alpha Episode 1: Is there more to life than this?

Join us in this thought-provoking episode as we explore life's big questions. Is there more to life than this? What is the purpose of my life? Where am I heading? It also introduces the person at the heart of the Christian faith: Jesus Christ.

**Wednesday, 21 May 2025 at 6:30pm** in the **Function Room at St Mary of the Cross Parish Hub, Charlestown.**

Please REGISTER if you will be joining us via the QR code. Contact Joel at [mackillopalpha@gmail.com](mailto:mackillopalpha@gmail.com) or at 0481 849 989 to learn how you can get involved!



## For Sale

Formal dining room chairs (sold together or separately) and table (sold for repair or for wood) for sale at cheap prices. Make an offer! To enquire, please contact Parish Hub.

## Diocesan Cursillo Retreat

The annual Diocese of Maitland- Newcastle 2025 Cursillo Retreat weekend will be held from **12<sup>th</sup>-15<sup>th</sup> June** at **Catalina Conference Centre, 171 Dorrington Road, Rathmines 2283** with the theme "Called to Be". The Retreat is a short course in Christianity which will enrich your faith for the rest of your life. It is Christ-centred, based on gospel values and is Sacramental.

**"How can I BE Christian in my many everyday environments?"**

The Cursillo movement has been alive and active across the Maitland Newcastle Diocese since 1970. Cursillo represents a renewal within the life of the Church and is predominately led by lay people, both men and women with the support of clergy.

If you are interested in joining the Cursillo Movement, enrolling for the Retreat weekend, or just wishing to learn more about Cursillo, please feel free to contact either of the following persons:

Meryl McCosker – 0498 250 000 [meryl.rick@gmail.com](mailto:meryl.rick@gmail.com) or

Rick McCosker – 0411 442 861 [rick.meryl@gmail.com](mailto:rick.meryl@gmail.com)



## Ignite Conference 2025: The Light

Inviting people of all ages to this conference and experience incredible people, uplifting worship, powerful speakers, beautiful sacraments and insightful workshops. The conference will be held at the **Broken Bay Cathedral Precinct, Waitara, from 10-13 July**. For more information, please see [igniteconference.com.au](http://igniteconference.com.au)

## Young Adult Retreat 2025

Calling all young adults in the Catholic Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle to the Young Adults Retreat 2025! A dynamic annual event designed for young people by young people, join us for a weekend to meet young people from all around the diocese, and experience Catholic community, worship, inputs by expert speakers, the Sacraments, and an opportunity to encounter Christ's personal love!

The retreat will take place from **27 to 29 June 2025**, kicking off at **6:00pm on Friday** and finishing at **12:30pm on Sunday**. People between 18 and 35 are welcome to join us at the **Catalina Lakefront Retreat in Rathmines, Lake Macquarie**.

The weekend costs \$170 per person with all food and accommodation included; sponsorship opportunities are available for those needing support.

## Join us for the Called & Gifted Discernment Process

The Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle is excited during the Jubilee Year to launch the Called & Gifted Discernment Process within the Diocese. The process is designed to help Christians discern the presence of charisms in their lives. Charisms, or spiritual gifts, are special abilities given to all Christians by the Holy Spirit to give them power both to represent Christ and to be a channel of God's goodness for people. Mission & Evangelisation is working directly with the Catherine of Siena Institute to offer the Called & Gifted Discernment Process this year. The process will be facilitated online by professionally trained practitioners based in the USA.

Part One of the Called & Gifted process will take place across four Tuesday evenings from **10 June to 1 July, 7:30pm - 9:00pm** and you will learn:

- The role of every Catholic and of the local parish in the mission of the Church to the world.
- The critical role of charisms in the life and service of other lay Catholics and in the life of the parish or Christian community.
- The signs and characteristics of 24 common charisms.
- How discerning and using your charisms can change your life and the life of others, your parish, and the world.

Part two of the process will be a **one hour personal gifts interview** held from **7 July to 25 July**. Experienced CSI-trained gifts interviewers will be helping you with recognising patterns in your life that may indicate the presence of a charism and choose one charism to discern.

Part three of the process is **Discernment in Faith** held across 4 Tuesday evenings from **29 July to 9 September**. You will now be put into practice what you have learned about discernment. You will pick one charism to "experiment with" (two hours a week for a minimum of 6 – 8 weeks) – and see what God does!



## Parish Prayer

Father,  
pour out your Spirit upon the people of this parish;  
and grant us a new vision of your glory;  
a new experience of your power,  
a new faithfulness of your word,  
and a new consecration of your service,  
that your love may grow among us,  
and your kingdom come.  
Through Christ our Lord,  
Amen.



## Holy Mass, Adoration and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament, First Rite Reconciliation and Rosary

Celebrated on Saturdays (EXCEPT the first Saturday of the month) at St Mary Immaculate Church, Charlestown. Holy Mass 9:00am-9:30am, Adoration and Benediction 9:30am-10:00am, and First Rite Reconciliation 10:00am-10:30am. Rosary prayed on the third Saturday of the month 10:00am-10:30am. Eucharistic Adoration will occur for one hour prior to every Mass, except on Saturday mornings.

## Acknowledgement of Country

We acknowledge Aboriginal Peoples are Australia's first people and the Traditional Owners and Custodians of the land in which we live the joy of the Gospel and share it with the world. We are in the country of the Awabakal Peoples. We respectfully acknowledge their Elders, celebrate their continuing culture and the living memory of their ancestors.

## Welcome to New Parishioners

If you are new to our Parish, and you desire to know more about it, please complete the 'Welcome Form' located at the back of the church and return it to the Parish Office in the envelope provided or contact the parish secretary at the Parish Office. **Please note, if needed, that there are 'Order of Mass' cards available at the entrance of the church to use during Holy Mass. These cards help you to understand the order of Holy Mass, as well as the responses for you to say. If you require any assistance, please see Fr Tony.**

## Function Room Hire

The MacKillop Parish Pastoral Centre Function Room Charlestown is available for hire. It comes equipped with a kitchen, multi media equipment and plenty of room for activities. Please contact the Parish Office for further information.

## Mass Collections — Thank you

**The First Collection is for the support of the priests around the diocese:**

BSB: 066739  
Account Number: 100018265  
Account Name: CCF  
Reference: Your Name

**The Second Collection is for the support of the parish:**

BSB: 066739  
Account Number: 100012059  
Account Name: CCF  
Reference: Your Name

## Local School Contacts

### St Joseph's Catholic Primary School, Charlestown

Acting

Principal: Mrs Kathryn Hill  
Address: 32 Shelton Street, Charlestown NSW 2290  
Phone / Fax: 02 4943 5414 / 02 4942 3218  
Email: admin@charlestown.catholic.edu.au  
Website: www.charlestown.catholic.edu.au

### St Paul's Catholic Primary School, Gateshead

Principal: Mr Greg Cumming  
Address: 66 Felton Street, Gateshead NSW 2290  
Phone / Fax: 02 4943 6369 / 02 4943 1414  
Email: admin@gatesheadsp.catholic.edu.au  
Website: www.gatesheadsp.catholic.edu.au

### St Mary's Catholic College, Gateshead

Principal: Mr Brett Donohoe  
Address: 47-49 Pacific Highway, Gateshead NSW 2290  
Phone / Fax: 02 4944 4800 / 02 4944 4827  
Email: admin@gatesheadsm.catholic.edu.au  
Website: www.gatesheadsm.catholic.edu.au

# YOUNG ADULT RETREAT

Join us for a weekend of community, praise, formation and adoration at our 2025 Young Adult Retreat.

Engage • Encounter • Worship

\$170 per person

27 – 29 June 2025

Catalina Lakefront Retreat  
171 Dorrington Road,  
Rathmines



Register now!



[mn.catholic.org.au](https://www.mn.catholic.org.au)

## BAPTISMS

This Sunday we celebrate the Baptisms of  
Oakah Jane Russell, Mia Bray Peter,  
Henry Michael Skelton and  
Isaiah Anthony Stuart-Bennett.



May the Holy Spirit guide them as they grow to  
become disciples of Christ throughout their lives.

Disclaimer: Unless otherwise stated, advertisements placed in this newsletter are by independent third parties who have no legal relationship with the Diocese. The activities or services of the advertisers are not supervised or controlled in any way by the Diocese. The Diocese is not in a position to endorse the advertisers or the service provided and makes no representation about such matters. Accordingly, the Diocese cannot accept any responsibility for the advertisers or the activities or services that are the subject of these advertisements.

# A Prayer for Pope Leo XIV

AND HIS INSTALLATION AS BISHOP OF ROME

**Gracious and loving God,**

we thank you for the blessing of Pope Leo XIV,  
chosen to shepherd your Church in these times.  
Guide him as he walks in the footsteps of St. Peter,  
that he may lead with humility, wisdom, and strength.

You have called him to a sacred task—  
To shepherd your people ,  
to serve with tenderness and compassion,  
and to proclaim the Gospel boldly and with joy.

Guide him as he builds your Church  
into a sacrament of unity, love, and peace for all the world,  
by governing with fidelity,  
those entrusted to his care.

Strengthen him with grace and courage,  
right judgement, knowledge, and truth,  
inspired by your Holy Spirit,  
and by the maternal care of the Blessed Virgin Mary,  
and the prayers of all the saints.

Through Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

