



The Catholic Community of

MacKillop Parish

St Mary Immaculate Church
CHARLESTOWN

St Paul's Church
GATESHEAD

St John Vianney Church
REDHEAD



SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER YEAR C (Divine Mercy) 27 APRIL 2025

Church Contacts

Parish Priest & Vocations Director: Rev Fr Anthony (Tony) Potts
Parish Deacon: Rev Mr Anton Perera
Parish Secretaries: Mrs Maryanne Barry
Mr Vimal Valiyaveetil
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

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

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

E childprotection@mn.catholic.org.au

For further information visit:

Website: www.officeofsafeguarding.org.au

Complaints: <https://officeofsafeguarding.org.au/making-a-complaint/>

Liturgical Times - 2nd Week of Easter

St Peter Chanel, priest, martyr, Memorial

Monday 28 April	9:00am	Mass	Charlestown
	6:30pm	Memorial	Sacred Heart
		Mass for	Cathedral,
		Pope Francis	Newcastle West

St Catherine of Siena, virgin, doctor, Memorial

Tuesday 29 April	5:30pm	Mass	Charlestown
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Wednesday 30 April	9:30am	Mass	Charlestown
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Thursday 01 May	9:00am	Mass	Gateshead
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St Athanasius, bishop, doctor, Memorial

Friday 02 May	9:00am	Mass	Gateshead
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Sts Philip and James, apostles, Feast

Saturday 03 May	9:00am	Mass	Charlestown
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THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER YEAR C

Saturday 03 May	6:00pm	Mass	Charlestown
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Sunday 04 May	8:00am	Mass	Charlestown
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9:30am	Mass	Gateshead
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NB: Eucharistic Adoration will occur for one hour prior to every Mass, except on Saturday mornings.

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, Ottilie 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: His Holiness Pope Francis, Elaine Wheatley

Anniversaries: Maria Chocholowski, Stanislaw Tobiasz, Mary McCann Clark, Jack Doran, Joy Doran, Nicholas Doran, Doug Rae, Bessie Rae, Cecil Bridge, Lea Bridge, Leo doran, Des Nielson, Barry Ross, Berryl Ross, Brother Alman, Lee Anne Doran, Alistair Nielson, Hilda Nielson, Terry Quinn, Mark Edser, Barry Cleary, Vincent Farrelly, Ethel May Doran, Lola Orrett, Bev Orrett

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 5: 12-16

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

The numbers of men and women who came to believe in the Lord increased steadily.

The faithful all used to meet by common consent in the Portico of Solomon. No one else ever dared to join them, but the people were loud in their praise and the numbers of men and women who came to believe in the Lord increased steadily. So many signs and wonders were worked among the people at the hands of the apostles that the sick were even taken out into the streets and laid on beds and sleeping-mats in the hope that at least the shadow of Peter might fall across some of them as he went past. People even came crowding in from the towns round about Jerusalem, bringing with them their sick and those tormented by unclean spirits, and all of them were cured.

The word of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 117: 2-4. 22-27. R. v.1

(R.) Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, his love is everlasting.

1. Let the sons of Israel say:
'His love has no end.'
Let the sons of Aaron say:
'His love has no end.'
Let those who fear the Lord say:
'His love has no end.' **(R.)**
2. The stone which the builders rejected
has become the corner stone.
This is the work of the Lord,
a marvel in our eyes.
This day was made by the Lord;
we rejoice and are glad. **(R.)**
3. O Lord, grant us salvation;
O Lord grant success.
Blessed in the name of the Lord
is he who comes.
We bless you from the house of the Lord;
the true God is our light. **(R.)**

Second Reading

Revelation 1: 9-13, 17-19

A reading from the book of the Apocalypse

I was dead and now I am to live for ever and ever.

My name is John, and through our union in Jesus I am your brother and share your sufferings, your kingdom, and all you endure. I was on the island of Patmos for having preached God's word and witnessed for Jesus; it was the Lord's day and the Spirit possessed me, and I heard a voice behind me,

shouting like a trumpet, 'Write down all that you see in a book.' I turned round to see who had spoken to me, and when I turned I saw seven golden lamp-stands and, surrounded by them, a figure like a Son of man, dressed in a long robe tied at the waist with a golden girdle.

When I saw him, I fell in a dead faint at his feet, but he touched me with his right hand and said, 'Do not be afraid; it is I, the First and the Last; I am the Living One. I was dead and now I am to live for ever and ever, and I hold the keys of death and of the underworld. Now write down all that you see of present happenings and things that are still to come.'

The word of the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation

John 20: 29

Alleluia, alleluia!

You believe in me, Thomas, because you have seen me; happy those who have not seen me, but still believe!

Alleluia!

Gospel

John 20: 19-31

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

After eight days Jesus came in and stood among them.

In the evening of that same day, the first day of the week, the doors were closed in the room where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews. Jesus came and stood among them. He said to them, 'Peace be with you,' and showed them his hands and his side. The disciples were filled with joy when they saw the Lord, and he said to them again, 'Peace be with you. 'As the Father sent me, so am I sending you.' After saying this he breathed on them and said: 'Receive the Holy Spirit. For those whose sins you forgive, they are forgiven; for those whose sins you retain, they are retained.' Thomas, called the Twin, who was one of the Twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. When the disciples said, 'We have seen the Lord', he answered, 'Unless I see the holes that the nails made in his hands and can put my finger into the holes they made, and unless I can put my hand into his side, I refuse to believe.' Eight days later the disciples were in the house again and Thomas was with them. The doors were closed, but Jesus came in and stood among them. 'Peace be with you' he said. Then he spoke to Thomas, 'Put your finger here; look, here are my hands. Give me your hand; put it into my side. Doubt no longer but believe.' Thomas replied, 'My Lord and my God!' Jesus said to him: 'You believe because you can see me. Happy are those who have not seen and yet believe.' There were many other signs that Jesus worked and the disciples saw, but they are not recorded in this book. These are recorded so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing this you may have life through his name.

The Gospel of the Lord.

News and Events

Alpha

Join us in spreading faith and fellowship by volunteering for the Alpha program at our parish! Alpha is a welcoming, engaging course where people explore life, faith, and meaning. Whether you can assist with catering, set-up children's ministry, or providing support, your time and talents will make a difference. Alpha will commence on **Wednesday, 21 May 2025 at 6:30pm** in the **Function Room at St Mary of the Cross Parish Hub, Charlestown.**

Together, we can create an inviting space for others to grow closer to God. Contact Joel at mackillopalpha@gmail.com or at 0481 849 989 to learn how you can get involved!



Office Closure

St Mary of the Cross Parish Hub Office, Charlestown will be closed on **Tuesday, 29 April 2025** due to Parish Secretaries Training Day. The Office will resume working on **Wednesday, 30 April 2025.**

Diocesan Local Churches Pilgrimage Friday 16 May - Sunday 18 May

Our Jubilee Year is now well underway, and our eight Local sites of Pilgrimage are open and ready for you.

Pick a passport one up at any church along the way. Visit one or visit them all. Collect your stamp, and on each page, re-affirm the spiritual journey you have committed to this Jubilee Year. An indulgence is on offer with prayer, Eucharist and acts of mercy.

We have a very special long weekend planned for you. If the idea of visiting all eight Local sites of Pilgrimage in the Diocese is a little daunting. Mission & Evangelisation has done all the hard work for you. In just a few weeks on **Friday 16, Saturday 17 and Sunday 18 May**, we will journey with you over three days as each Church hosts us for mass, prayer, confession and good old-fashioned hospitality. This will be a chance to get your entire passport complete and meet countless new people along the way.



Friday 16 May	Our Lady of the Rosary Church-Taree	9:00am-Sacrament of Penance 10:00am-Mass, Morning tea hosted by parish to follow.
Saturday 17 May	Sacred Heart Cathedral, Newcastle West	8:30am-Sacrament of Penance 9:15am-Mass, Morning tea hosted by the parish to follow
	St Mary's Star of Sea, Newcastle	11:00am-Formation/Prayer
	St Brigid's and St Patrick's, Cooranbong	1:00pm-Formation/Prayer-BYO lunch Picnic lunch on the grounds, Tea and Coffee hosted by the parish
	St John's the Baptist Shrine, Maitland	3:15pm-Formation/Prayer
Sunday 18 May	St Joseph's, East Maitland	5:00pm-Mass, Sausage sizzle with tea and coffee hosted by parish to follow
	Blessed Virgin Mary Queen of Peace Church, Scone	8:30am-Sacrament of Penance 9:00am-Mass, Morning tea hosted by the parish to follow
	St Joseph's, Murrurundi	12:00pm-Mass, BYO Lunch

Memorial Mass for His Holiness Pope Francis

Bishop Michael Kennedy extends an invitation to the clergy, religious, and people of the diocesan community, together with members of the broader community, to attend a Memorial Mass for His Holiness Pope Francis on **Monday, 28 April at 6:30pm in Sacred Heart Cathedral, Newcastle West.**

As a community of faith, we will come together in prayer to honour his life, give thanks for his faithful service to God and the Church, and commend his soul to the mercy of God. All are welcome.



Federal Election Statement 2025 by Australian Catholic Bishops Conference

Please collect the Statement at the main entrance of our churches this Sunday. It invites us to reflect on key issues before voting. Thanks, Fr Tony.

Diocesan Cursillo Retreat

The annual Diocese of Maitland- Newcastle 2025 Cursillo Retreat weekend will be held from **12th - 15th 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 or Rick McCosker – 0411 442 861 rick.meryl@gmail.com



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.



BAPTISMS

This Sunday we celebrate the Baptisms of

Ted Marcus Wildrick, Elsie Olivia Wildrick,

Kai Hendrix Rice and Abigail Rice.



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

Memorial Mass for His Holiness Pope Francis

Monday, 28 April 2025
6:30pm

Sacred Heart Cathedral,
841 Hunter Street,
Newcastle West NSW



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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