

MacKillop Parish



St Mary Immaculate Church
CHARLESTOWN

St Paul's Church
GATESHEAD

St John Vianney Church
REDHEAD



THE MOST HOLY BODY AND BLOOD OF CHRIST (CORPUS CHRISTI) YEAR A 7 JUNE 2026

Church Contacts Liturgical Times Year A/2 - within Ordinary Time 10

Parish Priest & Director of Vocations: Rev Fr Anthony (Tony) Potts
Parish Secretaries: Mrs Maryanne Barry
 Ms Lisa Christoff
Baptism Preparation: Mr Joel Edwards
Co-Directors of Sacred Music: Mr Robert Copas
 Mr Joel Edwards
Co-Ordinator of Faith Formation: Mr Joel Edwards
Promoters of Safeguarding: Fr Anthony Potts
 Mrs Simone McAllister
 Ms Natalie Pearce
 Mr Finnegan Todhunter
 Ms Jo Franks
 Ms Lynette Blayney

Monday, Ordinary Time 10
Monday 8 June 9:00am Mass Charlestown

Tuesday, Ordinary Time 10
Tuesday 9 June 5:30pm Mass Charlestown

Wednesday, Ordinary Time 10
Wednesday 10 June 9:30am Mass Charlestown

Thursday, St Barnabas, apostle, Memorial
Thursday 11 June 9:00am Mass Gateshead

Friday, The Most SACRED HEART of Jesus, Solemnity
Friday 12 June 9:00am Mass Gateshead

Saturday, Ordinary Time 10
Saturday 13 June 9:00am Mass Charlestown
9:30am Adoration and Charlestown
Benediction
10:00am Reconciliation Charlestown

Sunday, 11th SUNDAY in ORDINARY TIME
Saturday 13 June 5:00pm Mass Charlestown

Sunday 14 June 9:00am Mass Gateshead

NB: Eucharistic Adoration will occur for one hour prior to every Mass, except on Saturday mornings.
Liturgy of the Hours will be celebrated 30 minutes before every Mass.

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: mackillop.parish@mn.catholic.org.au
 mackillopcharlestown.org.au
Website:
Office Hours: Monday-Friday, 9:00am-3:00pm

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



Please Pray For:

Sick: Jenny Phillips, Derek Orrin, Anne Standing, David Ellis, Lucy Bridge, Sarah Williams, Helen Davies, Timothy Brown, Peter John Evans, Jane Mcvicar, Pauline Williams, Emelia D'Aquisto, Margaret Wright, Emma Walsh, Otilie Marie Sheens, Glory Ivanfy, Archie Huxley, Jodie Bell, Mark Evans, Peter Corcoran, Gary Williams, Kathrina Douglas, Gwen Mangan, Nancy Toonan, Douglas Wallace, Heather Bosevski, Leanne Haywood, Eileen March, Roger Pearce
(Once the person is well again, would you kindly inform the Parish Office)

Recently Deceased:
Anniversaries: Lyla Reid

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

This Sunday's Scripture Readings

First Reading

Deuteronomy 8:2-3. 14-16

A reading from the book of Deuteronomy 8:2-3. 14-16

He gave you food which you and your ancestors did not know .

Moses said to the people: 'Remember how the Lord your God led you for forty years in the wilderness, to humble you, to test you and know your inmost heart – whether you would keep his commandments or not. He humbled you, he made you feel hunger, he fed you with manna which neither you nor your fathers had known, to make you understand that man does not live on bread alone but that man lives on everything that comes from the mouth of the Lord.

'Do not then forget the Lord your God who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery: who guided you through this vast and dreadful wilderness, a land of fiery serpents, scorpions, thirst; who in this waterless place brought you water from the hardest rock; who in this wilderness fed you with manna that your fathers had not known .'

The Word of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 147:12-15. 19-20. R. v.12

(R.) Praise the Lord, Jerusalem.

Or

(R.) Alleluia!

1. O praise the Lord, Jerusalem!
Zion, praise your God!
He has strengthened the bars of your gates,
he has blessed the children within you. (R.)
2. He has established peace on your borders,
he feeds you with finest wheat.
He sends out his word to the earth
and swiftly runs his command. (R.)
3. He makes his word known to Jacob,
to Israel his laws and decrees.
He has not dealt thus with other nations;
he has not taught them his decrees. (R.)

Second Reading

1 Corinthians 10:16-17

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

Though we are many, we form a single body because we share this one loaf .

The blessing-cup that we bless is a communion with the blood of Christ, and the bread that we break is a communion with the body of Christ. The fact that there is only one loaf means that, though there are many of us, we form a single body because we all have a share in this one loaf.

The Word of the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation

John 6:51-52

Alleluia, alleluia!

I am the living bread from heaven, says the Lord;
whoever eats this bread will live for ever .

Alleluia!

Gospel

John 6:51-58

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

My flesh is real food and my blood is real drink .

Jesus said to the Jews:

'I am the living bread which has come down from heaven.
Anyone who eats this bread will live for ever;
and the bread that I shall give
is my flesh, for the life of the world.'

Then the Jews started arguing with one another: 'How can this man give us his flesh to eat?' they said. Jesus replied:

'I tell you most solemnly,
if you do not eat the flesh of the Son of Man
and drink his blood,
you will not have life in you.
Anyone who does eat my flesh and drink my blood
has eternal life,
and I shall raise him up on the last day.
For my flesh is real food
and my blood is real drink.
He who eats my flesh and drinks my blood
lives in me
and I live in him.
As I, who am sent by the living Father,
myself draw life from the Father,
so whoever eats me will draw life from me.
This is the bread come down from heaven;
not like the bread our ancestors ate:
they are dead,
but anyone who eats this bread will live for ever .'

The Gospel of the Lord.



News and Events

Display Screens at Charlestown church

While planned for installation next week, the tradespeople arrived unexpectedly this week and installed display screens in Charlestown church. These replace the data-projector screen which dominated the sanctuary. You were to be informed in this Sunday's bulletin. Apologies for the lack of notice. Thanks, Fr Tony.

Prayer Vigil - Jesus: A Home for All

Approximately 175-200 people gathered for the Prayer Vigil on the Solemnity of the Most Holy Trinity last Saturday night around St Mary Immaculate Church Charlestown. We commenced with a Eucharistic Procession led by children scattering rose petals in front of the Blessed Sacrament. This was followed by a beautiful Mass with people of all ages clearly moved by the liturgy. Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament then occurred with up to 25 people in attendance at any one time over a 4-hour period. Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament concluded the vigil. Throughout the night delicious refreshments were enjoyed by many in the Function Room. Sincere thanks to the Organising Committee, comprised of teachers and parishioners, and to those parishioners involved in all other aspects of the vigil. Fr Tony.

Bishop's Canonical Parish Pastoral Visitation of MacKillop Parish

Dear brothers and sisters,

Bishop Michael Kennedy will be conducting his Canonical Parish Pastoral Visitation of MacKillop Parish, commencing with our schools on Tuesday, 16 June. He will visit the rest of the parish from Friday, 19 June until Sunday, 21 June. During this time, he will:

- Celebrate and preach at regular Sunday Masses
- meet with parishioners at those Masses
- meet with pastoral council and finance council
- undertake a parish engagement gathering which will be an exercise for the bishop to listen to our parishioners, and will be facilitated by Sr Gaye Lennon RSM and Sr Jenny Gerathy OP
- review parish finances
- review parish safeguarding practices
- inspect buildings
- inspect parish sacramental registers
- learn about any pastoral and mission & evangelisation initiatives or activities in our parish
- visit the Catholic Schools within our parish on a school day close to the weekend visitation.

I am sure I speak for you when I say that we look forward to the Bishop's visit.

Thanks, Fr Tony.

BAPTISM

This weekend we celebrate the baptism of

Miller Murray Kroehnert.

May the Holy Spirit guide him as he grows to become a disciple of Christ throughout his life.

SRE GATHERING with Bishop Michael



Friday 17 July 2026, 9:30am – 1pm at St. Stephens Parish Myall Coast

You are invited to a special gathering for all SRE teachers—and those considering joining this ministry. Come spend a day with Bishop Michael Kennedy and fellow volunteers as we celebrate, reflect, and grow in our shared mission. Come listen, learn, and be inspired by the experience and dedication of others who serve with faith and love.

Register: [SRE & Children's Ministry Reflection Day with Bishop Michael - Catholic Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle.](#)



LATEST NEWS FROM OUR SAFEGUARDING PROMOTERS

The Promoters of Safeguarding continue to endorse a culture of safeguarding within the Parish.

In safeguarding our seniors, we need to be aware that dementia is the number one cause of deaths in Australia (AIHW - Australian Institute of Health & Welfare, 05 Dec2025). This week, and next week, our bulletin articles will focus on promoting our community awareness of dementia – what it is, what each person can do to reduce its impact, and what government agencies are doing to address its influence.

Dementia is an umbrella term, usually associated with older people, describing conditions that affect memory, thinking, behaviour, and the ability to perform everyday activities, with Alzheimer's disease being the most common form.

The AIHW estimates that there is 1 in 16 people with dementia per 1,000 Australians. The rate of dementia rises quickly with age, from less than one person with dementia per 1,000 Australians aged 30–59, to 84 people with dementia per 1,000 Australians aged 65 and over, and 292 per 1,000 Australians aged 85 and over. Nearly two-thirds (63%, or nearly 266,000) of Australians with dementia are women, while 37% (or 159,000) of Australians are men – a result impacted by women, on average, living longer than men.

Next week, the article will cover **controllable dementia risk factors**. Lack of knowledge of these factors remains a major public health challenge



National Catholic Safeguarding Standards

We are currently updating Parish records to ensure that we are compliant with the National Catholic Safeguarding Standards. **ALL** volunteers in the Parish, regardless of their role within the Diocese, are required to register as a volunteer. The application is online, and is a very quick and easy process.

Depending on your volunteer role/s, you may be required to have a Working With Children Check or a National Police Check. If this is the case, you will be notified, and will receive an email requesting additional information. The Volunteer Registration form can be located on the Parish website at mackillopcharlestown.org.au. I am more than happy to email the link to you directly, please feel free to reach out to me. I am also happy to assist you in completing the form.

I have been reaching out to some of you over the past two weeks, thank you to those who have assisted me. I understand that many of you may have previously completed forms, however the online form is now a mandatory requirement.

Please contact me at the Parish office on 4943 4153 if you have any questions or concerns.

Thank you kindly, Lisa.

Diocesan Cursillo 3-day Course

Do you wonder how to be more fully alive? If so, then you may like to consider attending our Cursillo 3-day course. The annual Diocese of Maitland- Newcastle 2025 Cursillo 3 days will be held from 11-14th June at Rathmines with the theme "Joy of the Lord is my strength". Cursillo is a short course which will enrich your faith for the rest of your life. It is Christ-centred, based on gospel values and will be asking each participant "How can I BE Christian in my many everyday environments?" Learn More: [Diocesan Cursillo 3-Day Course - Catholic Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle](#)

Sea Sunday 12 July 2026

Sea Sunday is a time to pray for and support the men and women who work at sea, often far from home in difficult and isolating conditions. The 2026 theme is *Harbours of Hope: The Church Alongside Seafarers*. Through the Ministry of The Mission to Seafarers and Stella Maris, churches offer care, welcome, and hope to seafarers visiting our ports. In 2025 alone, more than 48,000 ship visits and 150,000 shore leave transports were provided.

Please consider supporting this vital ministry through prayer, hospitality, or a financial donation. Donations over \$2 are tax deductible.

Mission To Seafarers Newcastle
BSB: 062 815 (CBA)
ACC: 2802 5883

Come and have a chat - May 2026

I experienced different ways the Holy Spirit spoke to some people a week ago. Eight (8) people responded to the invitation to 'Come and have a Chat' with me.

Some shared the highs and lows of their life journey. This was a privilege to hear. A small number spoke about the music at our Sunday Masses. They affirmed the quality of the way the music is played and sung. However, they expressed a hope that some more familiar, simpler, and uplifting music would be played.

They also spoke about the use of Latin. As you will see in the bulletin, Latin is to be preserved in the Liturgy. However, I believe it should be one hymn on occasions. In time, at times, we will use Latin in some of the parts of the Mass, like the Holy Holy (Sanctus), and the Lamb of God (Agnus Dei).

Prior to this forum, I was largely unaware of these issues.

While no-one has spoken to me, I have become concerned about the length of Sunday Masses. To that end, the welcoming of Baptismal families at Masses, while lovely and a vital link between the families and the Sunday Assembly, will be streamlined. This will include no longer Anointing children with the Oil of Catechumens. This will save approximately ten (10) minutes.

The distribution of Holy Communion, at present, takes at least ten (10) minutes. So that it can occur more quickly, there will be an extra person distributing the Lord's Body at the Saturday Vigil Mass, and two (2) extra people distributing the Lord's Body at the Sunday Mass.

Incense, as the bulletin explains, is an important symbol, but it will only be used on certain solemnities, such as Easter, Christmas, Ascension, Pentecost, Trinity, Corpus Christi, etc. This adds approximately five (5) minutes to the Mass.

By comparison, it is interesting to note that in many Protestant denominations, the preaching alone can range from forty-five (45) minutes to one (1) hour in length.

Sometimes an over-concern for the length of time is tied to the fact that we are motivated more by fulfilling our Sunday Mass obligation, rather than being motivated by a love of worship, and a communion with our brothers and sisters in Christ.

While our attendances are up on previous years, I want to do my best to ensure that as many people as possible have a home here.

I would like to think that the honesty with which I preach models that I am open to your feedback.

Finally, in all things, charity!

Fr Tony.



Did You Know? One in Seven Christians Worldwide Experiences Persecution

An estimated one in seven Christians worldwide experiences persecution or discrimination because of their faith.

In countries including Nigeria, Burkina Faso, Pakistan and China, Christians can face imprisonment, violence, or pressure to abandon their faith simply because they follow Christ.

Yet despite persecution, countless Christians continue to gather for Mass and practise their faith with remarkable courage - even when doing so may place their freedom or lives at risk.

These Christians are not strangers to us. They are our brothers and sisters in Christ, and we are called to stand with them in prayer and solidarity.

Through Aid to the Church in Need (ACN), discover their stories and be inspired by the courage of Mathieu and Pauline, catechists from Burkina Faso who were kidnapped for their faith.

Read their remarkable story by scanning the QR code, or visit aidtochurch.org/bulletin.



Come & Learn About Parish Renewal

Renewed & Sent is an initiative of the Diocese of Wollongong, in partnership with Divine Renovation, and will take place in Campbelltown from 1-3 October. It is an opportunity to step back, listen to what God is doing in other communities, and reflect on what renewal might look like in your own Parish.

This is a not to be missed opportunity for anyone passionate about seeing their Parish come alive in faith and mission.

Express your interest in claiming one of the 50 complimentary accommodation rooms being offered by Mission & Evangelisation - [Renewed & Sent - Parish Renewal Summit - Catholic Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle](#).

Please note, you will still need to [register](#) for the event, to cover the costs of participation (\$225 for general admission), and to organise transport to and from.

Caritas Australia End of Financial Year Appeal

As we approach the end of the financial year, Caritas Australia invites you to help families facing conflict, hunger and displacement. Your support is needed to get critical aid into countries like Sudan, which is facing the largest humanitarian crisis in the world today. Over 30 million people are in urgent need of assistance, the healthcare system has collapsed, and families are facing chronic food insecurity. Your tax-deductible gift this End of Financial Year can provide lifesaving essentials such as nutritious food, clean water and vital medicines to families in need.

Make a donation today at <https://www.caritas.org.au/make-hunger-history>



VINEYARDS CATHOLIC PARISHES PRESENTS



APOLOGETICS

with Dr. Robert Haddad

**FRIDAY & SATURDAY
12 & 13 JUNE 2026**

FREE EVENT
SCAN TO REGISTER



Kurri Kurri Parish Hall
102 Barton Street,
KURRI KURRI

FRI: 6:15pm - 9pm
SAT: 10am - 3:30pm

12 JUNE **TALK 1: Seven Surprises of the Eucharist!**
Robert outlines the many 'discoveries' in his personal journey towards the Catholic faith in the Eucharist.

13 JUNE **TALK 2: We have seen His Glory - How God is always among us.**
Robert unpacks how God's presence, post Jesus' ascension into Heaven remains among us, His people in the Eucharist.

13 JUNE **TALK 3: The Tree of Life - God's New Food for Eternal Life**
Robert explores how the Cross of Christ is the new 'Tree of Life', providing the spiritual 'fruits' of baptism and the Eucharist.

Donations are welcomed to support the speaker. RSVP for catering purposes. More info provided on registration form. Contact Yvonne - 0450323206

You are invited to a:

Fishing Weekend

God for Blokes

10-12 July 2026
Beach fishing Forster



for more information and registration trybooking.com/DLPKG



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 one hour before each Mass.

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

MacKillop Leadership Teams

Pastoral Council

Fr Anthony Potts
Kathryn Hill
Kaylene Maretich
Brett Donohoe
De-Anna Addicoat
Paul McAllister
Finnegan Todhunter
Paul Schwander
Lynette Blayney
Joel Edwards
Nathan O'Dea

Parish Pastoral Team

Fr Anthony Potts
Kathryn Hill
Paul McAllister
Joel Edwards
Finnegan Todhunter

Coordinator of Readers

Tony Bonaventura

Coordinator of Counters

Stephanie Wilson

Coordinator of Greeters

Anne Mullins

Coordinator of Children's Liturgy

Jo Franks

Finance Council

Fr Anthony Potts
John Wilson
Paul McAllister
Paul Schwander
Lynette Blayney
John Fitzgerald
Jackson Franks

Worship and Prayer Council

Fr Anthony Potts
Tui Smith
Majella Bonaventura
Anne Brogan
Maria Rego
Robert Copas
Joel Edwards
Finnegan Todhunter

Coordinator of Preparation of the Gifts

Norma Johnston

Coordinator of Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion at Mass

Majella Bonaventura

Coordinator of Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion to the Sick and Housebound

Max Bridges

Local School Contacts

St Joseph's Catholic Primary School, Charlestown

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: Ms Kaylene Maretich
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

PLACES TO CALL IF YOU NEED HELP

LIFELINE 13 11 14	BEYOND BLUE 1300 22 4636
1800 RESPECT 1800 737 732	HEADSPACE 1800 650 890
MINDSPOT 1800 61 44 34	KIDS HELPLINE 1800 55 1800
NATIONAL DEBT HELPLINE 1800 007 007	NATIONAL CORONAVIRUS HELPLINE 1800 020 080

