

**5th September 2021**  
**23rd Sunday Ordinary Time Yr B**

Listening to God's Word  
Growing in Faith



Reaching out to All

**WEBSITE**

[www.allsaintsblackbuttsouth.org.au](http://www.allsaintsblackbuttsouth.org.au)

**PARISH PRIEST**

Fr Joseph Figurado

Presbytery: 4957 5949

Parish Mobile: 0438 769 922

Email:

[Joseph.Figurado@mn.catholic.org.au](mailto:Joseph.Figurado@mn.catholic.org.au)

**ST COLUMBA'S CHURCH**

Lockyer Street ADAMSTOWN

**ST KEVIN'S CHURCH**

226 Main Road CARDIFF

**ST PHILIP'S CHURCH/PRESBYTERY**

31 Vista Parade KOTARA

**PARISH OFFICE**

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**Secretary**

Louise Byron

**Office Hours**

Tuesdays & Wednesdays 9.00am - 3.00pm

Closed 12 noon - 1.00pm

**PARISH PRIMARY SCHOOLS**

St Columba's Adamstown

St Kevin's Cardiff

St James' Kotara

**PARISH HIGH SCHOOLS**

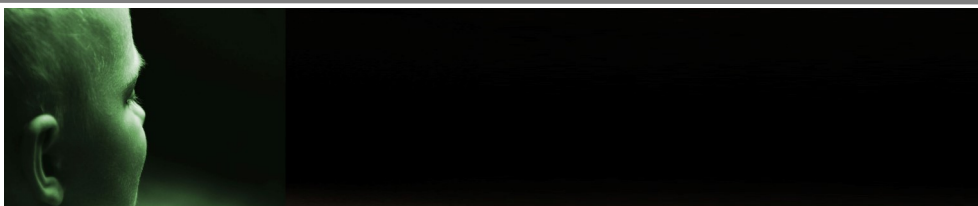
St Pius X Adamstown

St Paul's Booragul

[Links are on our Website](#)

# ALL SAINTS PARISH BLACKBUTT SOUTH

Faith Communities of Adamstown, Cardiff, Kotara



Happy Father's Day! Greetings, Best Wishes and Blessings,

I wish to praise those fathers who have striven to balance the demands of work, marriage, children and the tremendous pressures of this lockdown. Many Fathers, Mothers, Guardians and Grandparents do this with an honest awareness of both joy and sacrifice. There are so many dedicated, selfless, father figures in our life, especially single parents, religious sisters, clergy.

Let us praise those fathers who, by their own account, were not always there for their children, but who continue to offer those children, now grown, their love and support. As well, let us pray for those fathers who have been wounded by words and actions of their children. At times suffer alone, keeping all tears inside and showing a happy face to their children.

Let us praise those fathers who, despite marital discord, have remained in their children's lives. Let us honour those fathers whose children are adopted and whose love and support has nurtured a thriving life.

Let us praise those fathers who, as stepfathers, freely choose the obligation of fatherhood and earned their stepchildren's love and respect. Let us praise those fathers who have lost a child to death and continue to hold the child in their hearts. Let us praise those men who have no children but cherish the next generation as if they were their own. Let us honour our grandparents, who become our "Fathers and Mothers" most of the time.

Let us praise those men who have "fathered" us in their role as mentors, guides, teachers, spiritual animators and well-wishers. We honour and respect all married couples and have no children; in their way, they become "Father Figure" to so many, especially to each of them."

Let us praise those men who are about to become fathers; Mothers, may they openly delight in their children.

And let us praise those fathers who have died but live on in our memory and whose love continues to nurture us. So, let us bring our Families in prayers and celebrate this important day in a great spiritual way, showing our love, respect and honour.

With prayers and love in the Lord

*Fr Joseph*

**Fr. Joseph Figurado's weekday chat**

Time: This is a recurring meeting Meet anytime

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/76501513067?pwd=UHVkWEhsbVhIZFNBOFR3c25uZDJ5QT09>

Meeting ID: 765 0151 3067 Passcode: PPCatchup 7.00 PM - 8.00 PM

**Sunday Mass - Every Sunday at 10.00 AM**

(from the Presbytery due to Zoom facilities)

Topic: Fr. Joseph Figurado's Personal Meeting Room

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/2634948696?pwd=TUd1R1F3VIZQVC9qQW5STy9ncm56Zz09>

Meeting ID: 263 494 8696 Passcode: Mass

## Parish News

### **SICK/SPECIAL NEEDS:** *We remember in prayer ...*

Leonie Pickett, Veronica Hipwell, Karen Curran, Algi & Geraldine Bajelis, Mick King, Margaret McLellan, Jan Hobson, Lewis Peel (Purcell), Rita Martin, Emma Pacifico, Lorraine Caldwell, Emilinda Peralta, Loris Jackson, Linda McDonald, Dean Hart, Barry Moore, Chris Patsan, Catherine Hobbs, Bernadette Coffey, Dorota Bakowska, Abby Rodwell, Gae Alderton, Ernestina Klein, Alexander Klein, Maria Richardson, Stanislaw Ksiadz, Maria Kanonczuk, Penny Harrison, Paula O'Neill, Ren'nee Dodge, Sharyn Trappel, Clare Sullivan, Aileen A'Beckett, Maureen Joseph

**RECENTLY DECEASED:** Sr Bernadette Mills

**ANNIVERSARIES:** John Ellis Miner (son of John), Michael Donnelly, Frances Williams, Peter Torpey

**NATIONAL  
CHILD PROTECTION  
WEEK 2021**  
5-11 SEPTEMBER

**EVERY CHILD IN EVERY COMMUNITY NEEDS A FAIR GO**

**National Child Protection Week  
5 - 11 September  
is a campaign held annually  
across Australia to  
raise awareness of  
child abuse prevention.**

National Child Protection Week aims to engage, educate, and empower Australians to understand the complexity of child abuse and neglect, and work together to prevent it. The campaign does this through the sharing of events and resources to encourage communities to engage in conversations around children's safety and wellbeing.

This year's theme is:

*Every child, in every community, needs a fair go.*

*To treat all of Australia's children fairly, we need to make sure every family and community has what kids need to thrive and be healthy.*

As a diocese, our goal when it comes to child protection is to always recognise and uphold the dignity and rights of all children and vulnerable adults, in-line with the Catholic Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle's abiding commitment to their safety, welfare, and wellbeing. A number of initiatives are occurring across our primary and secondary schools and Early Education Centres

### **The role of parents/grandparents/carers**

We invite parents, grandparents and carers from across our parish and schools and Early Education centres to participate in the initiatives with your children and encourage them to get involved.

We also encourage the broader community to visit [officeofsafeguarding.org.au/national-child-protection-week](https://officeofsafeguarding.org.au/national-child-protection-week) and use the resources available to support your children to stay safe.

For any questions or concerns relating to National Child Protection Week 2021, please contact:

Sophie Dougherty – Investigator, Prevention & Response Service (Office of Safeguarding)  
[sophie.dougherty@mn.catholic.org.au](mailto:sophie.dougherty@mn.catholic.org.au) P 4979 1390

**OR**

Connie Peate – Investigator, Prevention & Response Service (Office of Safeguarding)  
[connie.peate@mn.catholic.org.au](mailto:connie.peate@mn.catholic.org.au) P 4979 1390

## Our Parish Notices

**First Anniversary Mass:** Disappointingly, our Mass scheduled for this Saturday has had to be postponed. Please say a prayer for those we would have remembered and prayed for: Michael Wood (husband of Sue and father of Jessica), John Miner jnr. (son of John) and Pat Maddison (mother of Kathy Yorke).

**Parish Office Staffing** - due to the current lockdown, the Diocese has reduced the parish secretary hours to 2 days (Tuesdays & Wednesdays) per week. Louise continues to work from home. As the bulletin will be distributed during Wednesday, please have all bulletin requests lodged by 10.00am on Wednesday. Please let us know if there is anyone who would like to receive the bulletin via email. It will also be posted on the parish website [allsaintsblackbutsouth.org.au](http://allsaintsblackbutsouth.org.au) when time allows.

**Second-hand car required** - parishioner, Rachael Unicomb is looking for a safe and reliable 2<sup>nd</sup> hand car for her almost 17 year old daughter as a surprise for Xmas. If any parishioners know of anyone selling their car in the next few months, it would be truly appreciated if they could call Rachael on M 0418 234 330 or E [Rachael.unicomb@newcastle.edu.au](mailto:Rachael.unicomb@newcastle.edu.au)) as she would be really interested in buying it quickly.

**Fight Poverty with Your Used Stamps** - Mary MacKillop Today (MMT) recycles used postage stamps to: give disabled children an education in PNG; train poor women to learn life-skills in Peru; and bring vital health care to poor communities in Timor-Leste. To help - cut the stamp off, leaving a generous margin of envelope all around the stamp (please don't cut too close too the stamp). MMT also accept unusual envelopes and covers. In this case, DON'T cut the stamps off - just send the whole thing (please don't fold them). Stamp albums, First Day issues, stamp catalogues, etc. are also especially welcome. Please post to John Altham, 17 Boronia Street, Kyle Bay NSW 2221. Thank you! If anyone would like to collect the envelopes received at the parish office and process the stamps, please let Louise know.

### DIOCESAN / OTHER NOTICES:

**Plenary Council Conversations** - In preparation for the upcoming First Assembly of the Fifth Plenary Council our Diocesan Plenary Council members Bernadette Gibson, Fr Andrew Doohan VG, and Helen Belcher are seeking input from our diocesan community. You are invited to join them for a series of conversations around the Plenary Council agenda and its

associated questions, and guided by the Holy Spirit, so they can hear from as many people as possible. Plenary Conversations will be over a number of weeks each Thursday from 26/8 to 30/9 - 7.00pm to 8.30pm via Zoom. Program for Plenary Council Conversations: [Online Registration](#) is now open to register for all or one of the conversations.

- \* Thursday 2/9 – Formation
- \* Thursday 9/9 – Prayer
- \* Thursday 16/9 – Structures
- \* Thursday 23/9 – Governance
- \* Thursday 30/9 – Institutions

**Pints with a Purpose | Explore Season of Creation with Rose McAllister** - The Season of Creation is a time to renew our relationship with our Creator and all creation through celebration, conversion, and commitment. MN Catholic Youth welcome Rose McAllister (Manager- Formation and Education) who will explore this year's theme; inviting us to consider how we can celebrate this season so we are caring for our common home. 7.00pm this Monday, 6 September, [click here to book](#).

**Australian Catholic Men's Gathering** - Our Diocese will be hosting four online meetings to watch and discuss the four sessions of the Men's Gathering. These sessions will be an opportunity to engage with the material and with other men, while also being an opportunity to explore men's ministry in our diocese and our local communities. These online meetings will kick off on the Wednesday after Fathers' Day and run for four weeks during September. Each session will run for an hour. (7.30-8.30pm – 8th, 15th, 22nd, 29th September). If you would like to be a part of our Diocesan online gatherings, or if you would like to explore how you could run the sessions in your own local community, email [brendon.mannyx@mn.catholic.org.au](mailto:brendon.mannyx@mn.catholic.org.au) to register your interest. For more information, visit [Australian Catholic Men's Gathering 2021](#).

**Seasons of Creation Celebration** - This year the Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle, is partnering with Seasons of Creation to help raise awareness of the urgent need to care for the earth and for one another. Join us to hear guest speakers break open this years Season of Creation theme, "A Home for All? Renewing the Oikos of God". Time: 2:00PM  
Date: Saturday, 25 September 2021  
[Click here to book](#)

For more Diocesan Notices, go to [Bulletin Notices](#) on the Diocesan website [mn.catholic.org.au](http://mn.catholic.org.au)

## 23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year B

### FIRST READING Is 35:4-7

A reading from the prophet Isaiah  
Say to all faint hearts,  
'Courage! Do not be afraid.  
'Look, your God is coming,  
vengeance is coming,  
the retribution of God;  
he is coming to save you.'  
Then the eyes of the blind shall be  
opened,  
the ears of the deaf unsealed,  
then the lame shall leap like a deer  
and the tongues of the dumb sing for  
joy;  
for water gushes in the desert,  
streams in the wasteland,  
the scorched earth becomes a lake,  
the parched land springs of water.

### RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 145:7-10. R. v.1

#### Praise the Lord, my soul!

1. It is the Lord who keeps faith for ever,  
who is just to those who are oppressed.  
It is he who gives bread to the hungry,  
the Lord, who sets prisoners free.

2. It is the Lord who gives sight  
to the blind,  
who raises up those who  
are bound down,  
the Lord who loves the just,  
the Lord, who protects the stranger.

3. The Lord upholds the widow  
and orphan,  
but thwarts the path of the wicked.  
The Lord will reign for ever,  
Zion's God, from age to age.

#### Praise the Lord, my soul!

### SECOND READING Jas 2:1-5

A reading from the letter of St James  
My brothers, do not try to combine faith  
in Jesus Christ, our glorified Lord, with  
the making of distinctions between clas-  
ses of people. Now suppose a man  
comes into your synagogue, beautifully  
dressed and with a gold ring on, and at

the same time a poor man comes in, in  
shabby clothes, and you take notice of the  
well-dressed man, and say, 'Come this  
way to the best seats'; then you tell the  
poor man, 'Stand over there' or 'You can  
sit on the floor by my foot-rest.' Can't you  
see that you have used two different  
standards in your mind, and turned your-  
selves into judges, and corrupt judges at  
that?

Listen, my dear brothers: it was those  
who are poor according to the world that  
God chose, to be rich in faith and to be  
the heirs to the kingdom which he prom-  
ised to those who love him.

### GOSPEL ACCLAMATION cf. Mt 4:23

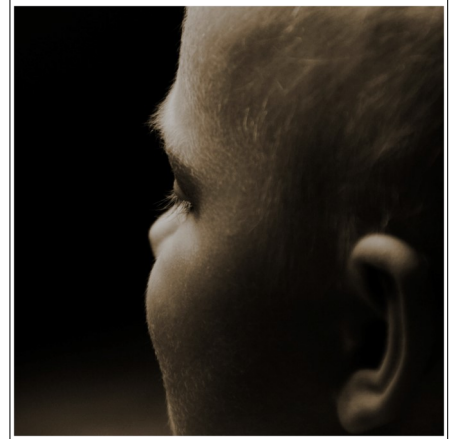
Alleluia, alleluia!

Jesus preached the Good News  
of the kingdom  
and healed all who were sick.  
Alleluia!

### GOSPEL Mk 7:31-37

A reading from the Holy Gospel according  
to Mark

Returning from the district of Tyre, Jesus  
went by way of Sidon towards the sea of  
Galilee, right through the Decapolis re-  
gion. And they brought him a deaf man  
who had an impediment in his speech;  
and they asked him to lay his hand on  
him. He took him aside in private, away  
from the crowd, put his fingers into the  
man's ears and touched his tongue with  
spittle. Then looking up to heaven he  
sighed; and he said to him, 'Ephphatha,'  
that is, 'Be opened.' And his ears were  
opened, and the ligament of his tongue  
was loosened and he spoke clearly. And  
Jesus ordered them to tell no one about it,  
but the more he insisted, the more widely  
they published it. Their admiration was  
unbounded. 'He has done all things well,'  
they said 'he makes the deaf hear and the  
dumb speak.'



#### REFLECTION by Dianne Bergant CSA

Jesus opens our eyes to the reality of  
God's presence in our midst, in the  
goodness of people and in the tender-  
ness of life, even in its vulnerability. He  
opens our ears to hear the word of God  
spoken to us by others, revealed to us  
through the created world.

There is an eschatological dimension  
to being open to the word of God, be-  
cause we are opened to hear some-  
thing from the future. The prophets  
always speak about this future in the  
present tense. They see it happening  
already. Isaiah proclaims, 'Here is your  
God!' and the world is transformed.  
Jesus says 'Be open.' The good news  
always opens us to future possibilities,  
to personal and communal transfor-  
mation, to a new creation. With the  
word of God, the future invades our  
present.

Although the eschatological future is  
already present to us, it is only unfold-  
ing, it has not yet opened completely.  
We still judge each other by appear-  
ances. We still miss the presence of  
God in the poor and the dispossessed,  
in those who suffer from disease or war  
or loneliness. We still shun those of  
another race, or those who have been  
shaped by another culture, or those  
who worship God in a different way.  
Although the eschatological future is  
already present, we have not yet put  
aside all of the biases of the past, we  
have not yet been fully transformed.  
But God has spoken, God has come to  
save us. God is trustworthy; God keeps  
faith forever.

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