

Listening to God's Word  
Growing in Faith



Reaching out to All



Be As You Are,

Dear Parishioners,  
Greetings, prayers, and love from me during this extended Lockdown!!

**Prayer during Lockdown:**

“Dear Lord, Today we beseech you with our hearts and minds broken and tired. In a world of uncertainty and chaos, much deeply yearning and longing for Healing, love, and protection. We don't know what future will hold for us, and we place our Trust in you. As we try our best to do our service of love, may we rooted in you, may compassion ground us always, may strength sustain us in moments of despair. May your presence in us bring healing, comfort, and assurance of faith through our simple gesture of togetherness as one Parish Family.” AMEN.

**Scripture Reflection:**

Imagine you are nurturing a much-loved son, daughter, or grandson or granddaughter or any children in your care, and you try to give love and care to them. There may be moments when children misbehave and become naughtier – because they are children! But at times we become bit tough and admonish them to become better, but our love remains the same. Further, imagine a child starts to play and falls over hurts very badly and coming back to you in tears, how will you treat the child? You will never deal with a harsh reprimand, instead you shall embrace, try to give more comfort, and will make efforts to be with the child until the child become more comfortable and happier. This is what Jesus wants from us in Today's scripture, the call is to everyone “Be as You are, Come As You are.”

In the Gospel today, there had been a huge argument about “Who is the Boss?” Though this happened 2021 years before! This can be applied to this present world, world leaders and all man made “Chaos.”

Further, Jesus then calls forward a child and teaches the Twelve that to receive a child in Jesus' name is to receive both Jesus and the One who sent him. We might easily fail to understand the significance of this action.

In first-century Palestine, children were without status or power, possessing no legal rights. In this action, Jesus is teaching his disciples and us that when we serve the least ones among us, we serve Jesus himself.

Let us pray for all weak and vulnerable people in our country and let us pray for the conversion of the world leaders and religious leaders as well. With prayers and Love in the Lord, Fr Joseph

**Weekly Liturgical Calendar:**

20/09/2021 - Monday - Sts. Andrew Kim Tae-gon, Paul Chong Ha-sang & Companions - Priest and Martyr - Memoria

21/09/2021 - Tuesday - St. Matthew Apostle - Feast

23/09/2021 - Thursday - St.Pius Pietrelcina, Priest - Memoria

**WEBSITE**

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**Secretary**

Louise Byron

**Home 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](#)

# 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, Sharyn Trappel, Clare Sullivan, Aileen A'Beckett, Maureen Joseph

## **FAN THE FLAME TOWARDS PLENARY ASSEMBLY ONE**

### ***Instrumentum Laboris***

41. Catholic schools make a significant impact as they educate more than 750,000 students. As “places of evangelisation, formation and enculturation”,<sup>75</sup> they allow students and teachers to explore and experience the Catholic faith tradition. Catholic education offices have developed new curricula and pedagogies in religious education that relate to the contemporary student population of our schools.<sup>76</sup> For many children, the first time they hear about God in a substantial way—or experience prayer and liturgy—is through attendance at a Catholic school.

<sup>75</sup> Congregation for Catholic Education, *The Catholic School on the Threshold of the Third Millennium* (1997), n. 11.

<sup>76</sup> Francis, “Launch of the Global compact on Education” (speech, Vatican City, 12 September 2019).

<sup>77</sup> Paul VI, *Gravissimum Educationis*, Declaration on Christian Education (1965), n. 3.

<sup>78</sup> National Centre for Pastoral Research, “Pastoral Research Online, Issue 45, June 2019”, National Centre for Pastoral Research, <https://ncpr.catholic.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2019/06/Pastoral-Research-Online-Edition-45- June-2019.pdf>.

43. Catholic schools and other pastoral care services are an integral part of most parishes and for many children and their families, the school is their primary point of contact with the Catholic community.

59. The Church recognises that parents are the first and foremost educators of their children<sup>77</sup> and share responsibility with the Church in ensuring their children’s participation in the life of Christ. The number of children receiving baptism is declining<sup>78</sup> and many families who seek this sacrament are not closely connected with a parish community.

133. Our parishes in particular are challenged to renew the formation of children, young people and families who may not be strongly connected to the Church but who still have an ‘instinct for the faith’ which prompts them to seek the sacraments or engage in part with of the Church’s life. The great challenge of accompaniment, as promoted by Pope Francis, is to encounter people where they are in order to, according to help them take some further steps along the journey of faith. In seeking to apply this general principle to catechesis and formation,

there will be a need for a deeper understanding of evangelisation and effective outreach to those near and far, and for the advice and expertise of people well-formed in listening, spiritual discernment and supporting the growth of discipleship. 180. The Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse shone a light upon child abuse in church and civic institutions, underlining the widespread and systemic nature of this social evil. While recognising that much has been done to address past failures by the Church in this area, the National Consultation calls for even greater efforts to learn from and care for survivors of abuse, and to strengthen the Church’s role as a champion for the safety of children, young people, and more vulnerable adults in society.

### ***Inclusive, Participatory & Synodal***

Particular concern was expressed for people with special needs and parents and families where children have special needs, who often feel excluded from parish and school life. It is proposed that priority be given to building better training of pastors and educators to assist in the integration of adults and children with special needs. Catholics must tirelessly and fearlessly affirm the unique dignity of each and every child, and the inestimable value of the labours of every parent. (p.16)

### ***Prayerful and Eucharistic***

The family is the usual birthplace of faith and the Church recognises that parents are the first and foremost educators of their children (*Gravissimum Educationis*, 3). The number of children receiving Baptism in Australia is declining (T. Dantis, personal communication). Families who seek this sacrament for their children may not be closely connected with a parish or faith community. Parents and caregivers continue to value Catholic education, even if their children are not baptised Catholic, with one out of every five Australian students attending a Catholic school (Australian Bureau of Statistics, 2019). (p.7)

## Our Parish Notices



### A Short Reflection on this Weekend's Gospel from Catholic Mission

One of the latest appeal letters distributed by Catholic Mission focuses on the story of Kusa, a 5-year-old boy whose mother Samorn\* is being supported by a kindergarten centre in Bangkok, in Thailand. The kindergarten is an initiative of the Good Shepherd Sisters who, like Jesus reminds his followers, affirm the importance of "receiving one child" in His name.

As October, the time when the Church celebrates World Mission Month, approaches, let us turn our hearts and minds – and perhaps our financial assistance – to the missionary work that the Catholic Church does with, and for, children around the world, including Thailand.

Jesus puts one child in "their midst" – there are many like Kusa, in the midst of our consciousness, who need us to provide them with hope for their long-term future, through education, food, uniforms and health care.

For more information about the vital, life-giving work of the Good Shepherd Sisters in Thailand, click [here](#). For a short video clip, focusing on Kusa and his mother Samorn\* (not her real name), click [here](#).

To follow up Catholic Mission, about any aspect of its work or your support and contact details, please call the Diocesan Director in Maitland/Newcastle, David McGovern on 0488 115 401 or email him at [dmcgovern@catholicmission.org.au](mailto:dmcgovern@catholicmission.org.au)

**Parish Bulletin** - Currently this is being distributed during Wednesdays via email, 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 [allsaintsblackbuttsouth.org.au](http://allsaintsblackbuttsouth.org.au) when time allows.

### 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 Dohan 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 16/9 – Structures
- \* Thursday 23/9 – Governance
- \* Thursday 30/9 – Institutions

**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 (Father Anthony Coloma, Louise Campbell, John Sandy and Mary-Anne DeLuca) break open this year's Season of Creation theme, "A Home for All? Renewing the Oikos of God". 2:00pm Saturday, 25 September 2021 Click [here](#) to book.

**Parishes in Harmony with Creation** - This online event will be held on Wednesday 6 October from 10:00 am to 11:00 am via Zoom, and repeated from 7:00 pm to 8:00 pm. The one-hour online presentation and discussion will explore how parishes can best respond to Pope Francis' 2015 Encyclical Laudato si': On Care For Our Common Home. On 4 October 2021, the Vatican will release resources for its Laudato si Action Platform. With the expected media coverage, some parishioners might want their parish to commit to the Laudato si Action Platform. Parish Priest and Parish Leaders are aware of this initiative. The Parishes in Harmony with Creation session will include:

- \* a brief overview of the main teaching in Laudato si';
- \* an overview of the Laudato si Action Platform;
- \* an overview of the Catholic Earthcare Parishes option and other resources;
- \* an introduction to the Diocesan Environmental Sustainability Manager; and
- \* small group discussion of the hopes and challenges of developing Parishes in Harmony with Creation

For more information, please visit [Eventbrite](#).

**aMeN caMiNo** Expressions of Interest are now open for 2022. Dates for 2022 are May 28 - June 1, June 18-22, July 2-6, July 9-13 & August 6-10. For more information and to register your interest, click [here](#) or contact [formed@mn.catholic.org.au](mailto:formed@mn.catholic.org.au)

## 25th Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year B

### First Reading Wis 2:12, 17-20

A reading from the book of Wisdom

The godless say to themselves,  
'Let us lie in wait for the virtuous man,  
since he annoys us  
and opposes our way of life,  
reproaches us for our breaches of the law  
and accuses us of playing false to our upbringing.  
Let us see if what he says is true,  
let us observe what kind of end he himself will have.  
If the virtuous man is God's son, God will take his part  
and rescue him from the clutches of his enemies.  
Let us test him with cruelty and with torture,  
and thus explore this gentleness of his  
and put his endurance to the proof.  
Let us condemn him to a shameful death  
since he will be looked after – we have his word for it.'

### Responsorial Psalm Ps 53:3-6. 8. R. v.6

The Lord upholds my life.

1. O God, save me by your name;  
by your power, uphold my cause.  
O God, hear my prayers;  
listen to the words of my mouth.
2. For proud men have risen against me,  
ruthless men seek my life.  
They have no regard for God.
3. But I have God for my help.  
The Lord upholds my life.  
I will sacrifice to you with willing heart  
and praise your name for it is good.

### Second Reading Jas 3:16 – 4:3

A reading from the letter of St James

Wherever you find jealousy and ambition, you find disharmony, and wicked things of every kind being done; whereas the wisdom that comes down from above is essentially something pure; it also makes for peace, and is kindly and considerate; it is full of compassion and shows itself by doing good; nor is there any trace of partiality or hypocrisy in it. Peacemakers, when they work for peace, sow the seeds which will bear fruit in holiness.

Where do these wars and battles between yourselves first start? Isn't it precisely in the desires fighting inside your own selves? You want something and you haven't got it; so you are prepared to kill. You have an ambition that you cannot satisfy; so you fight to get your way by force. Why you don't have what you want is because you don't pray for it; when you do pray and don't get it, it is because you have not prayed properly, you have prayed for something to indulge your own desires.

### Gospel Acclamation See 2 Thes 2:14

Alleluia, alleluia!  
God has called us with the gospel  
to share in the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ.  
Alleluia!

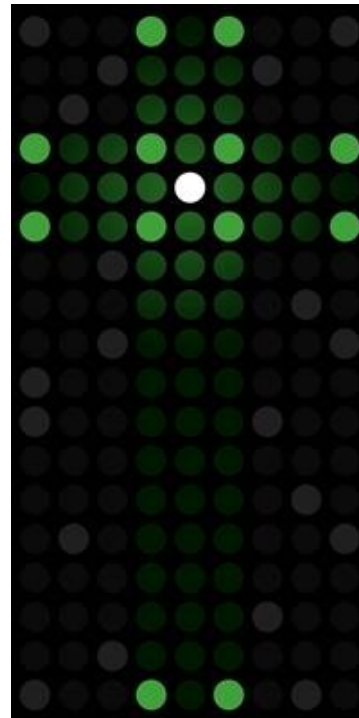
### Gospel Mk 9:30-37

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Mark.

After leaving the mountain Jesus and his disciples made their way through Galilee; and he did not want anyone to know, because he was instructing his disciples; he was telling them, 'The Son of Man will be delivered into the hands of men; they will put him to death; and three days after he has been put to death he will rise again.' But they did not understand what he said and were afraid to ask him.

They came to Capernaum, and when he was in the house he asked them, 'What were you arguing about on the road?' They said nothing because they had been arguing which of them was the greatest. So he sat down, called the Twelve to him and said, 'If anyone wants to be first, he must make himself last of all and servant of all.' He then took a little child, set him in front of them, put his arms round him, and said to them, 'Anyone who welcomes one of these little children in my name, welcomes me; and anyone who welcomes me welcomes not me but the one who sent me.'

### Have you thought? Last of all?



Jesus tells his disciples that if anyone wants to be first, they must make themselves last of all and servant of all. This is as challenging to us today as it was to the disciples and early Christians. Our world seems to revolve around position, status and power – whoever has the most toys wins! But what Jesus advocated was a leadership based on being of service to others. Being powerful simply means you are in a position to help even more people. Putting yourself last, instead of first, gives respect, dignity and power to others rather than to yourself.

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