



# Dungog & Gresford Parishes

CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF MAITLAND-NEWCASTLE

Incorporating worshipping communities at **St Mary's Church**, Brown Street, Dungog, **St Patrick's Church**, Rifle Street, Clarence Town, **St Helen's Church**, Park Street, East Gresford, **Sacred Heart Church**, Summerhill Road, Summer Hill via Vacy, and serving the surrounding districts.

## SUNDAY 4 JUNE 2023

### THE MOST HOLY TRINITY, YEAR A

#### Parish Staff

Fr Andrew Doohan (*Parish Priest*)  
Kerry Copus (*Parish Secretary*)

#### Presbytery & Parish Office

55 Brown Street, Dungog  
PO Box 24, Dungog NSW 2420

P: (02) 4992 1477

E: [dungog.parish@mn.catholic.org.au](mailto:dungog.parish@mn.catholic.org.au)

W: [www.dungoggresfordcatholic.org.au](http://www.dungoggresfordcatholic.org.au)

Emergency contact for Fr Andrew: 0412 405 671.

#### Office Hours

The Parish Office is staffed on Tuesdays from 10am until 2pm & Fridays from 10am until 1pm.

#### Parish Bulletin

Items for inclusion in the Parish Bulletin should be received at the Parish Office by 5pm on Wednesdays. Copies of the Bulletin are available from the Parish website and are updated weekly.

#### Other Contacts

Clarence Town      Val Preece—0403 251 434,  
   (02) 4996 4474, or email  
   [vip\\_1@bigpond.com](mailto:vip_1@bigpond.com)

Gresford              Faith Banister  
   0427 536 248

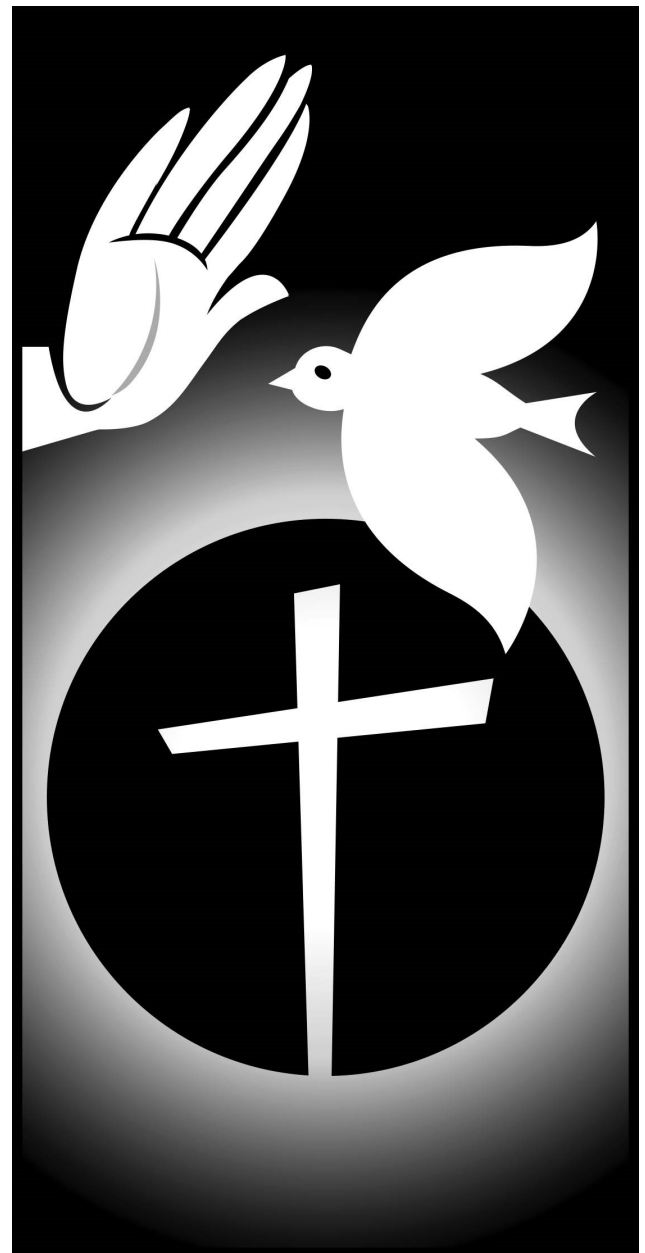
#### Parish School

St Joseph's Primary School  
49 Brown Street, Dungog NSW 2420  
Mrs Lisa McNeilly (*Principal*)

P: (02) 4992 1377

E: [admin@dungog.catholic.edu.au](mailto:admin@dungog.catholic.edu.au)

W: [www.dungog.catholic.edu.au](http://www.dungog.catholic.edu.au)



The Catholic Parishes of Dungog & Gresford recognize that they sit upon the traditional country of the Worimi people. We acknowledge their cultural heritage, beliefs and continuing relationship with this land. We pay our respects to their Elders—past, present, and emerging—and commit ourselves to working together for reconciliation and justice.



### **Catholic Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle Marriage Tribunal**

Can we help you? The Church is aware of the stresses with marriage breakdown and divorce, and understands that many people have questions about the processes which might allow a divorced person to remarry in the Catholic Church. If you have any questions or would like to have a confidential chat about your situation, please contact Jane at the Tribunal on 4979 1370.

### **Planned Giving Receipts**

As we approach the end of the 2022/2023 financial year, those who would like a receipt for their contribution are asked to let Kerry know **in writing to the Parish Office** before 30 June 2023.

It will not be possible to issue receipts if they are not requested in advance.

### **Planned Giving Envelopes**

New planned giving envelopes for the 2023/2024 financial year are now available for collection from each of the churches. Please take the time to collect your set of envelopes in advance of the end of the current financial year.

Please contact Kerry in the Parish Office if you have any questions about the new envelopes.

### **2023 NAIDOC Week Prayer Service**

The diocesan 2023 NAIDOC Week Prayer Service will take place on **Sunday 2 July 2023** starting at **1pm** in Sacred Heart Cathedral, Hamilton. All are invited to attend.

The service is held in collaboration with local Aboriginal and faith communities. Join with local Elders, including Canon Aunty Di Langham, who will lead a special reflection.

The service will include an official Welcome to Country with Aunty Sandra Griffin, Awabakal Country. A special water ceremony will take place and those attending are asked to bring a small container of water from Country with them on the day.

Refreshments and light meal will be served.

RSVP are requested by Sunday 25 June via [NAIDOCprayerservice.eventbrite.com.au](https://www.aidocprayerservice.eventbrite.com.au) or by contacting Kate P: (02) 4979 1329.

### **Introductory Clinical Pastoral Education**

This course is an introduction to the theory and practice of pastoral/spiritual care. It is a qualification required by NSW Health for those wishing to become hospital visitors. It covers such topics as listening skills, empathy, grief and loss, self-awareness and hospital procedures.

The course will be conducted over six Mondays from 9am to 4pm, beginning on 17 July and concluding on 21 August at Mackillop Parish, Charlestown. A certificate is awarded on completion. Registration is due by 1 July. For more information contact Fr Roger Zohrab 0408 151 481 or [roger.zohrab@health.nsw.gov.au](mailto:roger.zohrab@health.nsw.gov.au).

## **Historical Context**

### **We believe...**

*The teaching on the Trinity was not formally constructed until the 4th Century and was documented in the creed that emerged from the Council of Nicaea. The Creed that is said today in the Sunday liturgy is a version of that original Nicene Creed. The Nicene Creed spells out Christian beliefs about the nature of God, Jesus and the Spirit and was worded very carefully to negate a variety of heretical views that were held at the time. It is as much a statement about what we do not believe as it is a statement about what we do believe!*

### **St Joseph's Men Newcastle Meeting**

The St Joseph's Men Newcastle group will hold its next meeting on Wednesday 7 June from 6.30pm at the Sydney Junction Hotel, Hamilton. Entry is free. This is an opportunity for men across our Diocese to come together. For more information or to connect with the group, visit [St Joseph's Men Newcastle](#) on Facebook.

### **Availability of Sacrament of Penance**

The Sacrament of Penance is celebrated regularly. More details can be found on the Parish website under the 'Mass Times' tab at the top.

### **Baptisms This Week**

We welcome **Charlotte Laing**, together with her family and friends, as we celebrate her Baptism at St Patrick's on Saturday.

## The Liturgy of the Word—Part 5

When the Deacon or Priest has reached the Ambo, the appointed passage from one of the Gospels is proclaimed by them, drawing in parts from the same ritual format as the First and Second Readings that have preceded it.

The *GIRM* has this to say about the particular significance of the Gospel:

*The reading of the Gospel constitutes the high point of the Liturgy of the Word. The Liturgy itself teaches the great reverence that is to be shown to this reading by setting it off from the other readings with special marks of honour, by the fact of which minister is appointed to proclaim it and by the blessing or prayer with which he prepares himself; and also by the fact that through their acclamations the faithful acknowledge and confess that Christ is present and is speaking to them and stand as they listen to the reading; and by the mere fact of marks of reverence that are given to the Book of the Gospels. (n.60)*

The first thing to note, perhaps, is that the proclamation of the Gospel properly belongs to a Deacon. Therefore, if a Deacon is present, they will always proclaim the Gospel.

Only if a Deacon is not present, should a priest proclaim the Gospel, and then the preference is that the Presider does not proclaim the Gospel unless no other option is available. This is the case we encounter in most parishes, but it is not the normal practice.

This is because the proclamation of the Gospel is a *ministerial* act, not a *presidential* act, i.e., it is not something that attached to the role of the Presider.

The second thing to note is that the proclamation of the Gospel begins with the greeting "The Lord be with you", but without the extending of the hands. Again, this distinguishes the action as *ministerial* rather than *presidential* act. Following the announcement of where the passage comes from, there is a response from the Assembly which is not present for the First or Second Readings. This response highlights the particular significance of the reading coming from the Gospel.

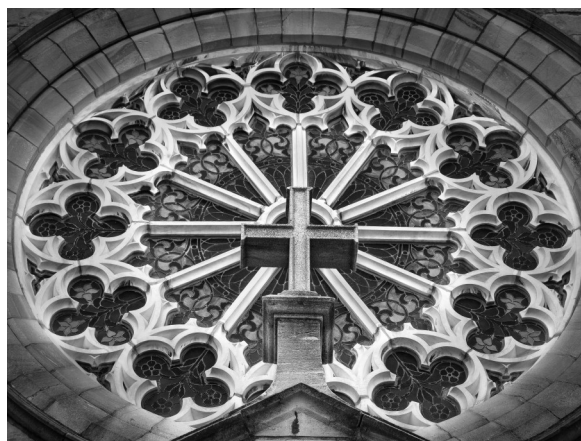
At the conclusion of the Gospel's proclamation, there is a similar ending, i.e., "The Gospel of the Lord", though the book is no longer held up to the Assembly when the Deacon or Priest says this. This older habit misplaced the focus from the verbal proclamation of the Gospel to the book itself, which is not the focus.

After the Assembly's response, the Deacon or Priest kisses the book from the Gospel has been proclaimed. Strictly speaking, only the Book of the Gospels should be revered in such a way, but the dearth of such books, particularly in smaller parishes, means that kissing the Lectionary has grown to be an acceptable adaption at this point of the liturgy.

Kissing the Book of the Gospels (or the Lectionary) is only the second item that an ordained minister reverences with a kiss during the liturgy—the other is the Altar at the beginning and end of Mass. Both the Altar and the Book of the Gospels represent Christ, which is the reason they are honoured in such a way.

With the proclamation of the Gospel concluded, the Liturgy of the Word continues with the Homily—but we'll talk about that in Part 6!

*To be continued...*



## Changes to our Weekday Mass Schedule

I've been approached by some parishioners who are interested in adding one more Mass to our weekday Mass schedule. The request is for a Mass to be celebrated on a Tuesday.

There are two things to say: a) I have no objection to adding another Mass as long as a significant number of people are interested in doing so, and b) My personal preference—if parishioners were interested in another Mass—would be to have the evening Mass on a Tuesday evening, and a morning Mass on the Wednesday.

A decision such as this is not something to rush into quickly (apart from the fact that I have commitments that I have already agreed to and which I need to honour). It may be a few months before we can introduce any changes, but I am content to do so if this is what parishioners wish.

I would encourage parishioners to talk about among yourself and then let me know what the thinking of the two parishes are.

*Fr Andrew*

## The Parish Diary (for the week ahead)

9th Week in Ordinary Time

Monday 5 June

Memorial of St Boniface

Tuesday 6 June

Wednesday 7 June

5.30pm Mass @ Dungog

Thursday 8 June

9.30am Mass @ East Gresford

Friday 9 June

9.30am Mass @ Dungog

Saturday 10 June

Memorial of St Charles Lwanga & companions

10am Baptism @ Clarence Town

Sunday 11 June

Solemnity of the Most Holy Body & Blood of Christ

8am Mass @ Clarence Town

9.30am Mass @ Dungog

11.30am Mass @ Summer Hill

## Today's Liturgy:

**1st Reading** Exodus 34:4-6, 8-9

**Psalm** Daniel 3

Glory and praise for ever!

**2nd Reading** 2 Corinthians 13:11-13

**Acclamation** Revelation 1:8

Alleluia, alleluia!

Glory to the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit:  
to God who is, who was, and who is to come  
Alleluia!

**Gospel** John 3:16-18

**Memorial Acclamation**

We proclaim your Death, O Lord,  
and profess your Resurrection  
until you come again.

**Pope Francis' Prayer Intention for June:** "We pray that the international community may commit in a concrete way to ensuring the abolition of torture and guarantee support to victims and their families."

## Morning Tea at Clarence Town

The next morning tea in Clarence Town will take place today (4 June) after the 8am Mass. Please join us for good food, good company, and good conversation.

## In Your Charity, Please Pray for:

### Those Who Have Died:

### Those Whose Anniversary of Death Is In June:

Nora Enright, Tom Richardson, Mary Clayden, Rudd Convery, Laura Black, Daphne Oades, Bede Johnson, Bruce Ralstone, Tom Stone, Noel Smith, Meryl Ryan, Edward Kealy, William Hudson, Sydney & Zita Osmond, Helen Collins, Gisela Kirston, Joan Oliver, Fr Brian Bailey, Kenny Barry, Roy Preece, Ken Cooper, Cheryl Maytom.

**Those Who Are Sick:** Maryann Smith, Tracy Copus, Daphne Bond, Maree McCulloch, Leonie Young, Lisa Reid, Bev Herbert, Denise Wenden, Warren Wade, Irene Robinson, Ray Tonkin (Qld), Luke Barry, Kathie Maynard, Kevin Ward, Brian Holstein, David Loudon, Michaela Brown, Phillip Hartup, Bella Duggan, Ella Rusak, Peter Byron, Bert Preece, Michael Primrose, Peter Rooke, Graham McCarthy.

# SCRIPTURAL CONTEXT

## Trinity

*At no point in the New Testament is the term Trinity used. That understanding of the nature of God came much later. However, there are a number of scriptural references that led to this theological understanding. The Annunciation, the baptism of Jesus and the great commissioning of the disciples to baptise in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit are all examples of the three persons of God being recognised or active in the gospels. Today's second reading shows St Paul using the three experiences of God as a blessing of the people of Corinth.*

## Safeguarding in our Parishes means ...

The Parishes of Dungog & Gresford hold that children, young people and vulnerable adults are a gift from God with an intrinsic right to dignity of life, respect and security from physical and emotional harm. They are to be treasured, nurtured and safeguarded.

In line with the Safeguarding Policy of the Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle, our parishes have zero tolerance for all forms of abuse and are committed to safeguarding all who interact with the parishes through our activities, ministries and services, especially children and adults at risk.