



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 22 OCTOBER 2023

29TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, 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

W: 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

Gresford Faith Banister
 0427 536 248

Safeguarding Promotion

For all safeguarding concerns within the parishes, please contact Fr Andrew in the first instance at the Parish Office (or mobile in emergencies).

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

W: www.dungog.catholic.edu.au



World Mission Sunday—22 October

World Mission Sunday, a day of special prayer in the life of the Church, is celebrated today.

In addition to the usual appeal for contributions to support Catholic Mission (envelopes are in our churches), it is perhaps also vitally important to remember that "mission" is the very reason why the Church exists.

If you are able to make a contribution this weekend, that would be wonderful. If not, please return your envelope next weekend.

So let's pray for the mission of the Church—to proclaim the Good News of Christ's Passion, Death and Resurrection—as we mark World Mission Sunday.

Position Vacant—Chaplain—John Hunter Hospital

The Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle is looking to appoint a Catholic Hospital Chaplain to John Hunter Hospital. The purpose of this position is to provide Chaplaincy and Pastoral Care services to the patients, their families, and staff at the John Hunter Hospital and other health facilities that exist on that site. The Catholic Chaplain provides spiritual and pastoral care, and emotional support on behalf of the faith community.

For more information about this position, please go to the Careers section on the diocesan website (www.mn.catholic.org/about/office/pastoral_ministries) or contact Teresa Brierley on 49791157.

Parish Bulletins

Our bulletins are posted to the website each week and the last three months are generally available from the 'Bulletin' on the top menu.

You can also sign up to receive an email notification each week (generally on the Saturday morning) from which you can download the bulletin. The sign up form is on the front page of the website (in the bottom right hand corner).

The Catholic Parishes of Dungog & Gresford recognize we stand upon the traditional country of Gringai clan of the Worimi people, who have walked upon and cared for this country for thousands of years.

We acknowledge their cultural heritage, beliefs and deep spiritual attachment and relationship to this country. We pay our respects to their Elders—past, present, and emerging—and commit ourselves to working together for reconciliation and justice.

Claim the Date—Dungog Christmas Lunch

Yes, it's getting close to that time of year again.

This year's Dungog Parish Christmas Lunch will take place on Sunday 26 November at 12pm. The cost will be \$15.

Add the date to your diary now!

Peace in the Holy Land

We continue to pray for peace in the Holy Land, between Israel and Palestine. We pray for an end to all violence, and the establishment of true peace based on the presence of true justice for all people who live in the Holy Land.

DIFFERENT VIEW

A simple question?

This gospel passage is sometimes interpreted as Jesus' endorsement of the Christian responsibility to state authorities. It has been interpreted as affirming the obligation to pay taxes and participate in the processes of government. In fact, Jesus neatly avoided the direct question put to him and never gave a response to the question of paying taxes. Rather, he made the question a much broader one and reminded people that their first obligation was to God, not the state. It is an excellent example of the need for critical interpretation of scripture. A simple, literal reading of this text leads us to drawing simple, literal conclusions about whether or not we should be paying taxes.

National Catholic Safeguarding Standards

Parishioners may be aware that over the next few months, the Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle is being audited against its compliance with the National Catholic Safeguarding Standards.

Our Director of Safeguarding, Sean Tynan, has recorded a short 15-minute presentation designed to let parishioners know about the audit process and, for those parishes who will be audited, what they can expect. That presentation can be found by going to bit.ly/3K5VOvo.

Although our own parishes are not being audited on this occasion, parishioners might be interested in knowing more about the audit process and the standards against which we might be audited in the future.

Fr Andrew

Engaging Your Faith Online Lecture Series

The Catholic Theological College (located in Melbourne) is once again offering a series of online lectures across October and November.

These lectures are ideal for anyone wishing to explore the offerings of CTC for personal, theological and spiritual development. Each lecture stands alone, so you can attend one or more as you feel the need.

The cost for each lecture is \$25, and further information can be found by visiting CTC's website at bit.ly/451aeEU. Booking and payment, can be made by visiting bit.ly/3tb1YF5.

Advent Program 2023

The Diocese has produced an Advent Program for Advent 2023 entitled *With Anticipation and Joy* for use by those in the parish who may wish to use it, either individually or as part of a group.

A copy of the resource can be found on our website (under the 'Resources') tab.

If parishioners are unable to download and print a copy of the resource themselves, please contact the Parish Office who are able to do that for you.



The Synod Convenes...

The current session of the Synod on Synodality is still underway in Rome and will conclude Sunday.

We continue to pray for those participating directly in the Synod process in Rome. Resources to assist our prayerful support and participation can be found on the Synod's website (www.synod.va).



ACU Public Lectures on Liturgy

In the lead up to the 60th anniversary of Vatican II's *Sacrosanctum Concilium* (it's Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy dated 4 December 1963), the ACU Centre for Liturgy is proud to present two exciting public lectures by international liturgical scholars:

1. Renowned liturgical scholar **Professor Teresa Berger** (Yale University Institute of Sacred Music and Yale Divinity School) will deliver a public lecture live via Zoom on **Monday 6 November 2023** at **10am** AEDT on the topic "Liturgy's Imagined Futures: Beyond Vatican II's Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy."

2. Acclaimed liturgical historian and theologian **Rev Professor John F. Baldovin SJ** (Boston College) will deliver a FREE public lecture live in person on ACU's Melbourne Campus on **Sunday 3 December 2023** at **5pm** AEDT on the topic "A Liturgical Reform in Peril? Sacrosanctum Concilium sixty years on." Fr Baldovin's public lecture will also be livestreamed for those unable to attend in person.

Further information and registration details for both of these unique and valuable events, and a flyer if desired, can be found at the following link: bit.ly/3Q05IXI.

The Centre for Liturgy looks forward to welcoming those attending these very special events marking this important milestone anniversary.

For more information on the events, please contact CentreforLiturgy@acu.edu.au.



Christian Meditation

The Contemplative Pathway: Where is Meditation Leading Us?

John Carroll will explore the benefits of meditators always trying to go into deeper silence. The day will also be a session on practical ideas for how to incorporate meditation into a busy life.

When: Saturday, 11 November, 9am-12pm

Where: St James' School Hall
Vista Parade, Kotara

Cost: \$10, including morning tea.

For more information and to RSVP, please contact Anne Cuskelly (phone 0407 436 808 or email manneecuskelly@hotmail.com).

The Parish Diary (for the week ahead)

29th Week in Ordinary Time

Monday 23 October

Tuesday 24 October

St Ignatius of Antioch

Wednesday 25 October

5.30pm Mass @ Dungog

Thursday 26 October

9.30am Mass @ East Gresford

Friday 27 October

9.30am Mass @ Dungog (with the Kinder,
Year 1 & 2 students from St Joseph's)

Saturday 28 October

Feast of Saints Simon and Jude

5.30pm Mass @ East Gresford

Sunday 29 October

30th Sunday in Ordinary Time

8am Mass @ Clarence Town

9.30am Mass @ Dungog

Today's Liturgy:

1st Reading Isaiah 45:1, 4-6

Psalm Psalm 95
Give the Lord glory and honour.

2nd Reading 1 Thessalonians 1:1-5

Acclamation Philippians 2:15-16
Alleluia, alleluia!

Shine on the word like bright stars;
you are offering it the word of life.
Alleluia!

Gospel Matthew 22:15-21

Memorial Acclamation

When we eat this Bread and drink this Cup,
we proclaim your Death, O Lord,
until you come again.

Pope Francis' Prayer Intention for October:

"We pray for the Church, that she may adopt listening and dialogue as a lifestyle at every level, and allow herself to be guided by the Holy Spirit towards the peripheries of the world."

HISTORICAL CONTEXT

What's in a face?

The question of coinage was a problematic one for first century Jews. The tradition – grounded in the commandments given to Moses on Mt Sinai – forbade the use of 'graven' or carved images. The people of Israel took this prohibition very seriously and did not portray the human face in artwork of any kind. Roman coins were minted with the face of the emperor on them and it was compulsory that taxes be paid with Roman coin. This helps to explain the role of the Temple money-changers who converted the Roman coin into Temple coin that could be used for religious purposes.

Morning Tea at Clarence Town

The next morning tea at Clarence Town will be held after the 8am Mass on 5 November. Please bring a plate to share, and join us for good food, good company, and good conversation.

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.

In Your Charity, Please Pray for:

Those Who Have Died: Carmel Hawke, Ray Tonkin (Qld).

Those Whose Anniversary of Death Is In October: Bert Clark, Jaimie Richardon, Bonnie Hulbert, Bruce Everding, Ned Garland, Mark Bannister, Michael Wills, Fred Dickerson, Scott Bowman, Irma Iacono, Paul Brockwell, Brian Doyle, Maria Kealy, Raymond & Phyliss MacKay, Peter James McMullen, Mary Isabelle Preece, Margaret Banister, Paul Bryon, Doris Murray, Carl Nolan, Michael Kennedy, Thomas Lonigan, Michael Scanlan. Thelma Moroney.

Those Who Are Sick: Maryann Smith, Daphne Bond, Maree McCulloch, Leonie Young, Lisa Reid, Bev Herbert, Denise Wenden, Warren Wade, Irene Robinson, Luke Barry, Kathie Maynard, Kevin Ward, Brian Holstein, David Loudon, Michaela Brown, Phillip Hartup, Bella Duggan, Ella Rusak, Matthew Kerr, Anne Newman.