



Dungog & Gresford Parishes

CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF MAITLAND-NEWCASTLE

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.

16TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, YEAR B

21 JULY 2024

Parish Staff

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

Presbytery & Parish Office

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Tuesdays & Fridays, 10am-1pm

Other Contacts

Clarence Town Val Preece
 0403 251 434, 4996 4474, or
 email 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

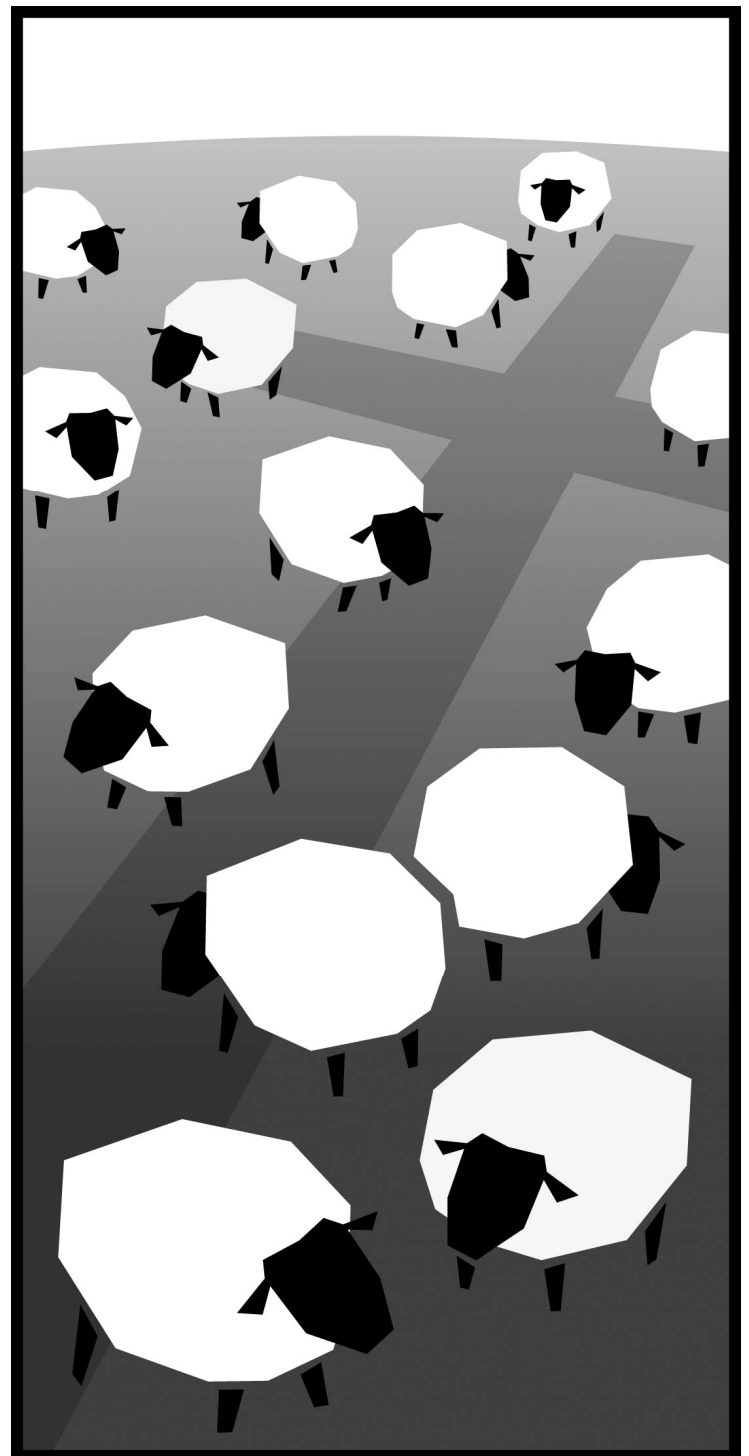
E: admin@dungog.catholic.edu.au

W: www.dungog.catholic.edu.au

Parish Bulletin is published each Sunday. Items for inclusion should be received at the Parish Office by 5pm on Wednesdays. Copies of the Bulletin are available from the Parish website which is updated weekly.

Parish Website is updated regularly with copies of the bulletin and other information, and is found at www.dungoggresfordcatholic.org.au.

Safeguarding Promotion For all safeguarding concerns within the parishes, please contact Fr Andrew.



Funeral for Marion Jordan

The Funeral Mass for Marion will take place next Thursday, 25 July, at 11am in St Helen's Church, East Gresford.

In light of this there will be no 9.30am Mass that day.

Bishop Michael's Anniversary

Bishop Michael Kennedy invites the People of the Diocese to join him in celebrating the occasion of his 25th Jubilee of Ordination to the Priesthood at a concelebrated Mass in Sacred Heart Cathedral, Hamilton on Wednesday 14 August 2024 commencing at 11am. Other priest and deacon jubilarians will be acknowledged at the Mass. All are welcome.

Historical Context

Prayer and reflection

Jesus demonstrated how important it is to engage in times of quiet prayer and reflection. When you expend a lot of time and energy in the service of others it is essential to reflect on those experiences, to learn from them and consider what you'd do differently next time. It is also important that any ministry that seeks to be based in the message of Jesus can only remain so if it is fuelled by prayer. Only through prayerful dialogue with God can we learn what God desires for us.

St Joseph's School, Dungog—Opportunity

St Joseph's School, Dungog, is starting the journey of renewing its Mission and Vision Statements, an integral part of ensuring the Catholicity of the school.

Parishioners are invited to make a contribution to this process by answering questions in a survey, which can be accessed online by going to: forms.office.com/r/Av2xW8HF3B?origin=lprLink.

If you do not have internet access and would still like to make a contribution, please arrange to visit Fr Andrew in the Presbytery and he will assist you to do so.

Weekend Retreat—Women of the Well

The Women of the Well retreats are designed to help you create space in your life to listen to the spirit's whisper and connect with other like-minded women.

The next Women of the Well retreat will be happening at The Hermitage, Mittagong from 9 to 11 August. We want to ensure our retreats are accessible to all, as such we set our fees to cover just our costs for your food & accommodation.

Thanks to our partnership with the Sisters of St Joseph, we are able to offer these subsidised rates to first-time retreatants. If this cost is a barrier, please contact us.

The cost for first time retreatants is \$125; for returning retreatants, \$350.

If you would like more information visit the website www.womenofthewell.com.au, or send us an email at info@womenofthewell.com.au.

Children's Sacramental Initiation 2024

Children wishing to complete their journey to full Christian Initiation are now able to begin that journey for 2024. All the information required—including the online enrolment form—can be found on our website at bit.ly/3NuMAv7.

The celebration of Confirmation for this cohort will take place on **Friday 25 October 2024** at 6.30pm. Please pass this information on to anyone who might find it helpful.

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.

The Catholic Parishes of Dungog & Gresford acknowledge the Gringai clan of the Worimi people and their deep and abiding attachment to the land on which we live and work.

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

For Your Consideration...

This week, rather than giving you something to think about in preparation for meetings later in the week, I'd like report to you on something that you have a right to know about.

And that is the outcome of donations to the **First Collection**.

Through the generosity of parishioners and visitors, the two parishes of Dungog & Gresford contributed a total of **\$25,413.58** towards the remuneration and support of the diocese's clergy. This amount is broken down as follows:

1st Collection & Dues	\$20,756.24
Stole Fees	4,600.00
Interest	57.34

Stole Fees, by the way, are those donations received when sacraments and sacramentals, such as baptisms, weddings, and funerals, are celebrated.

The 1st Collection & Dues averages just under \$400 a week.

The remuneration and support of the clergy is overseen by the Bishop in conjunction with the Maitland Clergy Central Fund (MCCF). It is the MCCF that oversees the management and the dispersal of the cash component of the clergy's remuneration, of which the First Collection taken up in each parish is the primary contributor.

As Chair of the MCCF, and on behalf of the beneficiaries of the Fund, I would like to thank you for your continuing generosity and support of your clergy.

The remuneration of the clergy in the Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle consists of contributions from a number of 'pots' which, when combined, ensure that they are provided with a modest yet comfortable life.

From the **First Collection**, each active clergy member receives an annual cash contribution of \$21,600 plus an additional \$9,360 as a sustenance allowance. The First Collection also covers the cost of health insurance (on average \$2,800 per year).

The cash contribution was increased in steps across the first half of 2024, the first increase in this amount since before 2010. At the Bishop's request this amount will now be indexed to reflect the annual CPI increases.

The centralised First Collection funds also provide the overwhelming majority of the capital cost of new vehicles for the clergy. These vehicles are sold after five years of use to maximise the resale value. The vehicles remain registered in the name of the Maitland Clergy Central Fund to further

provide protection of the funds with which they are purchased.

The second source of clergy remuneration comes from the parish or ministry to which they are appointed. In a parish context, the **Second Collection** provides for housing (presbytery maintenance and cleaning, electricity, water, etc) and the work-related running costs (petrol, servicing, insurance, tyres, etc) of the car used by the parish clergy.

There are a number of other small contributions that come from the Second Collection, including a morning newspaper for those who wish to read one as well as access to some training and development opportunities.

The last source of clergy remuneration comes from the Diocese itself, or more specifically from the Bishop. This source covers the mandatory clergy development that is in place following the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse, and covers such items as professional supervision, clergy conferences, an annual retreat, mandated training and development activities, and any other approved expenditure that falls into this broad category.

This last category is the newest contribution to the overall clergy remuneration package and is also the smallest contribution compared to the others.

I hope you find the information above valuable and of some assistance. As I've already mentioned, the clergy remuneration in the Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle provides each of us with a modest yet comfortable life, particularly when the remuneration is managed in an appropriate manner.

If anyone has any questions about the above, please don't hesitate to reach out. I'm more than happy to sit down and discuss the arrangements with anyone who would like to do so—and I'll even buy you a coffee while we do!

Have a blessed week...

Fr Andrew

Electronic Banking Details

BSB: 066 739
A/c Name: Catholic Development Fund
Reference: Your Surname and/or Envelope No., or other reference.

Account Nos:

First collection: 100 029 440

Second collection:

Dungog: 100 005 170

Gresford 100 005 173

Today's Liturgy:

Scripture Readings: 1st Jeremiah 23:1-6; 2nd Ephesians 2:13-18; **Gospel** Mark 6:30-34.

Responsorial Psalm: Lord, show us your mercy and love, and grant us your salvation.

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia! My sheep listen to my voice, says the Lord; I know them, and they follow me. Alleluia!

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

The Parish Diary (for the week ahead...)

16th Week in Ordinary Time

Monday 22 July

Feast of St Mary Magdalene

Tuesday 23 July

8.30am Mass @ Dungog

Wednesday 24 July

Thursday 25 July

Feast of St James

11am Funeral Mass for Marion Jordan @
East Gresford

Friday 26 July

Memorial of Sts Joachim & Anne

Saturday 27 July

5.30pm Mass @ East Gresford

Sunday 28 July

17th Sunday in Ordinary Time

8am Mass @ Clarence Town

9.30am Mass @ Dungog

10.30am Baptisms @ Dungog

In Your Charity, Please Pray for:

Those Who Have Died: Marion Jordan

Those Whose Anniversary of Death Is In July:

Kathleen Kealy, Veronica Trappel, Peter Fortunaso, Vera Pritchard, Maisie Atkins, George Allen, Alan Hinton, Eileen Sandiland, Daphny Massey, Paul Murphy, Lex Loudon, Samuel Rizzuto, Marie Garner, Maurice Garner, Ross Young, Pat Hartcher, Joyce Clark, Helen Hall, John Diver, Joan Mitchell, Kevin Murphy, Bert Preece, Nola Dooley, Tom Banister.

Those Who Are Sick: Maryann Smith, Daphne Bond, Maree McCulloch, Leonie Young, Lisa Reid, Bev Herbert, Warren Wade, Irene Robinson, Luke Barry, Kathie Maynard, Kevin Ward, David Loudon, Michaela Brown, Phillip Hartup, Anne Newman, Graham McCarthy, Keith Edwards, Otilie Sheens, Neville Barry, Susan Barlow, Phillip French, Allwyn Gippel, Margaret Banister, Christine Elliott.

Pope Francis' Prayer Intention for July: "Let us pray that the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick grant the Lord's strength to those who receive it and to their loved ones, and that it may become for everyone an ever more visible sign of compassion and hope."



HAVE YOU THOUGHT?

Sheep and Shepherds

This gospel passage is one of many gospel references and even more Old Testament references to sheep and shepherds. It is an enduring image from the Bible. Much of it stems from the shepherd-become-King, David. When a monarchy developed in Israel it was clear that the role of king was like that of a shepherd, caring for his flock. Jesus applied the image to himself on several occasions, reinforcing an image of servant leadership. The language continues today, with bishops referred to as shepherds of their diocese and carrying a crozier that is reminiscent of a shepherd's crook.

Rejoice!!

Morning Tea at Dungog

The next morning tea at Dungog will be held after the 9.30am Mass TODAY in our Parish Hall. Please stay and join us for good food, good company, and good conversation.

Baptisms This Week

We welcome **Alexis and Lacey Windebank**, together with their family and friends, as we celebrate their Baptisms after Mass next Sunday at St Mary's, Dungog.