



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.

17TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, YEAR B

28 JULY 2024

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

Emergency contact for Fr Andrew: 0412 405 671

Office Hours

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

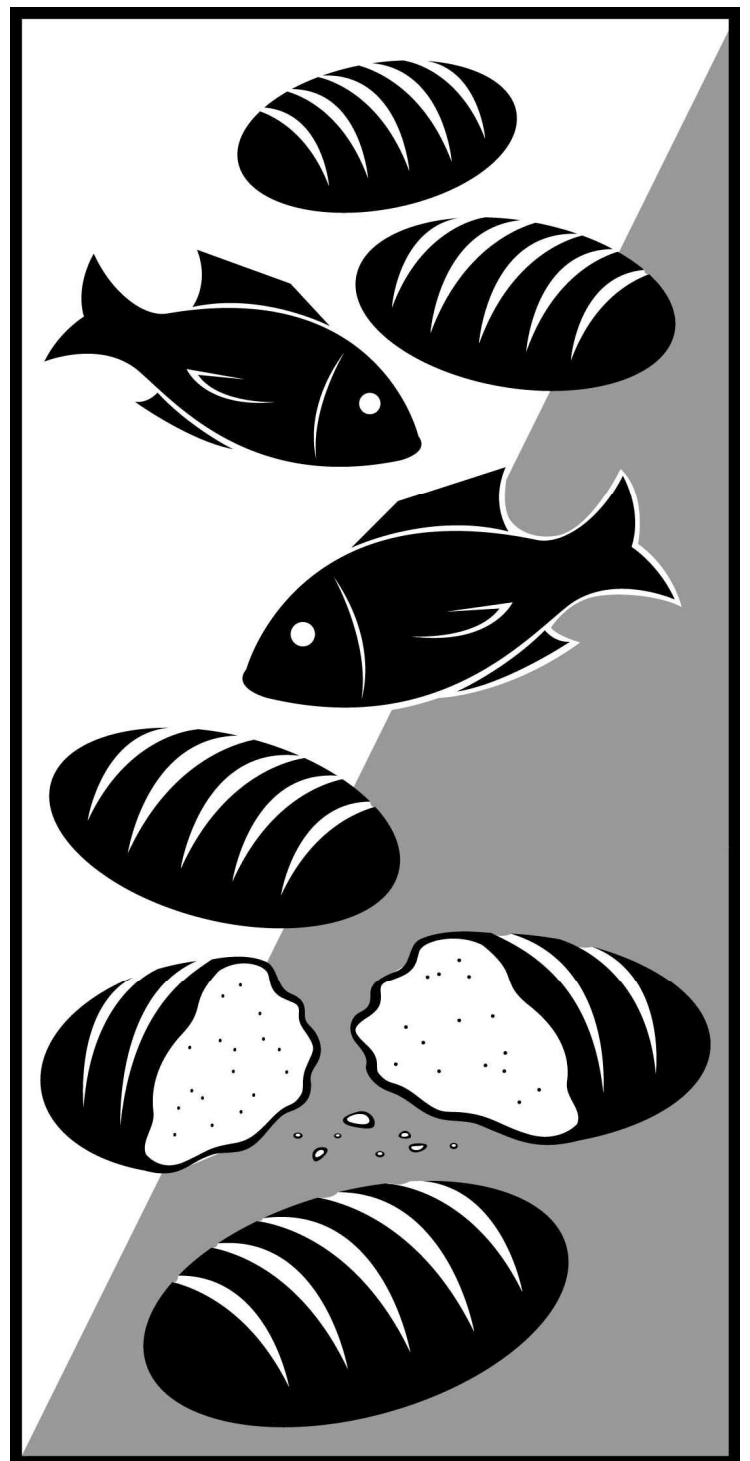
E: admin@dungog.catholic.edu.au

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.



See You Next Month!

As previously advised, I start my Annual Leave this Friday, and I will return in time for the weekend of Sunday 1 September.

Also as previously advised, there will be not be the opportunity for Masses during my absence, though Sunday Celebrations of the Word will take place each week at the usual time in each location.

For those who wish to attend Mass, the closest options are Raymond Terrace and Paterson, and also the broader Maitland Catholic Parishes region.

If a funeral needs to be celebrated during my absence, please call the Maitland Funeral Ministry on **0428 220 997**, and they will generously assist.

Bishop Michael's Anniversary

Bishop Michael Kennedy will be celebrating the occasion of his 25th Jubilee of Ordination to the Priesthood at a concelebrated Mass in Sacred Heart Cathedral, Hamilton commencing at 11am on Wednesday 14 August 2024. The Mass will also acknowledge other priest and deacon jubilarians. All welcome.

gospel focus

Messiah

At the time of Jesus there was a heightened expectation that the Messiah – the anointed one of God – would come and once again set the people of Israel free. However, there was great conjecture about what sort of person the Messiah would be. Some thought he would be a warrior king; others a wise priestly leader; others thought a shepherd-king in the image of David. Confounding all these expectations, Jesus' model of Messianic leadership was that of the servant leader; a leader who was one with the people, offering hope and meaning in the midst of their everyday suffering and struggling.

Change to Diocesan Library Hours

The Diocesan Library is open for patrons at 12 Tudor St, Newcastle West on Mondays and Fridays (10am-5pm) and on the 1st and 3rd Saturdays of the month (10am-2pm).

More information about the Diocesan Library—including access to the online catalogue—visit the Library's [website](#).

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.

Congratulations to David Treloar

It was announced during the week that David Treloar, currently Assistant Principal of St Joseph's, Dungog, has been appointed as Principal of Our Lady Victories School, Shortland from the beginning of the 2025 school year. Our warmest congratulations to David who will be missed by the St Joseph's community. Our loss is Shortland's gain!

The process of finding the next Assistant Principal for St Joseph's, Dungog will begin shortly.

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.

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...

Remember earlier in the year, around the time I was appointed Administrator of Gloucester Parish, I wrote in this bulletin with a request to change the weekday Mass schedule?

Remember how I said there were a number of activities external to the Parish that meant that I was spending significant amounts of time in the car and in meetings elsewhere, and as such I was struggling to fit everything in?

Remember at the meeting we had we settled on the arrangements we currently have? How weekday Masses in the two parishes would be celebrated in Dungog on Tuesday morning at 8.30am and in Gresford on Thursday mornings at 9.30am?

Well, things have changed...

One of the things that has changed—and changed significantly—is that I am no longer involved in many of the things that necessitated the changes I was asking you to consider.

Along with that, I've managed to move a few of the regular things I am still involved with so that they are connected with each other meaning I'm not required to be out of the parish environs in the same way I was previously.

And can I just add at this point...I'm very happy about that!

All of this means that, once I'm back from annual leave, we will be able to return to an expanded weekday Mass schedule, though it would be my preference to stick with an all morning schedule.

So if such a thing is considered amenable to you, I would like to suggest the following schedule with effect from **Tuesday 3 September**:

Tues	8.30am	Dungog
Wed	8.30am	Dungog
Thurs	9.30am	East Gresford
Fri	9.30am	Dungog *

* except for the First Friday of the month, when an Anointing Mass will be celebrated at Lara Aged Care.

To be clear, the above schedule will work most weeks and accommodates all of the activities in which I am currently involved. Unfortunately, there will still be a need for weekday Masses to be cancelled from time to time, usually for events and other things that are 'one off' in nature and for which I cannot plan in advance.

In addition to more regular celebrations for the parish community, having Mass available on most Fridays will mean that the students from our school will be able to join us regularly, something that I think benefits us as much as them.

I have to further confess that I have missed the regular celebration of Mass during the week—regular in the sense of celebrating it most days rather than limiting it specific days—and am looking forward to celebrating more often than I am at present. Not being able to celebrate regularly has reminded me of just how significant this action of the community is to my spiritual life.

So get ready for a new weekday schedule once I'm back from leave...it's only about five weeks to wait!

Have a blessed week...

Fr Andrew



Tribunal of the Catholic Church

Marriage breakdown is a traumatic experience for all those concerned. The Church reaches out in support of those who are divorced, while also upholding the permanence of a true Christian marriage.

The Maitland-Newcastle Office of the Tribunal extends an invitation to any divorced person who would like to talk about the annulment process. You can be assured that your privacy will be respected. Should you choose to seek an annulment, you will be guided and supported through the process.

For further information, please phone the Maitland-Newcastle Office of the Tribunal on 49791370 or email tribunal@mn.catholic.org.au.

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 2 Kings 4:42-44; 2nd Ephesians 4:1-6; **Gospel** Mark 6:1-15.

Responsorial Psalm: The hand of the Lord feeds us; he answers all our needs.

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia! A great prophet has appeared among us; God has visited his people. Alleluia!

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

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

17th Week in Ordinary Time

Monday 29 July

Feast of Sts Martha, Mary and Lazarus

Tuesday 30 July

8.30am Mass @ Dungog

Wednesday 31 July

Memorial of St Ignatius of Loyola

Thursday 1 August

Memorial of St Alphonsus Ligouri

9.30am Mass @ East Gresford

Friday 2 August

11am Anointing Mass @ Lara Aged Care

Saturday 3 August

Memorial of St Dominic

5.30pm Sunday Celebration of the Word @
East Gresford

Sunday 4 August

18th Sunday in Ordinary Time

8am Sunday Celebration of the Word @
Clarence Town

9.30am Sunday Celebration of the Word @
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."

Morning Tea at Clarence Town

The next morning tea at Clarence Town will be held after the 8am Mass Next Sunday (4 August). Please bring a plate to share, and join us for good food, good company, and good conversation.

Safeguarding in our Parishes means ...

The safeguarding of children and vulnerable adults is important.

Our Catholic Parishes of Dungog & Gresford are committed to fostering communities of safety and care.

We acknowledge our legal, moral, and spiritual responsibilities to care for and uphold the dignity and rights of children, young people, and vulnerable adults.

Different View

A miracle of sharing

Some scripture scholars suggest that the real miracle of the feeding of the multitude was not so much a multiplication of meagre resources by Jesus but rather a personal response by individuals within the crowd. It is suggested that upon seeing the willingness of Jesus (and the small boy whose food it was) to share the small amount of food available, everyone dug into their pockets and pulled out the small amount of food they also had and shared it with one another. The miracle was a breaking through from selfishness and isolation to a spirit of sharing and community.