



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.

PERPETUAL DAY OF REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY 15 SEPTEMBER 2024

Parish Staff

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

Presbytery & Parish Office

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Office Hours

Tuesdays & Fridays, 10am-1pm

Other Contacts

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Gresford Faith Banister
0427 536 248

Parish School

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

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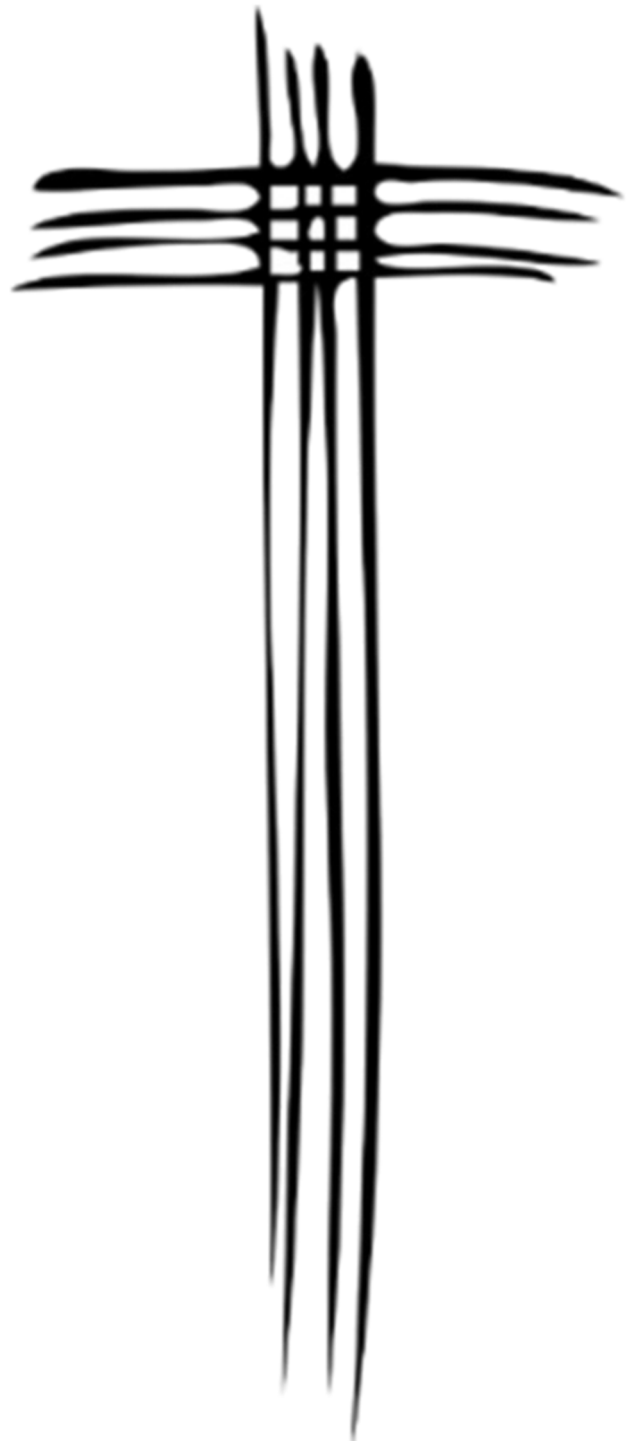
E: admin@dungog.catholic.edu.au

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.



National Police Remembrance Service

This year Bishop Michael Kennedy is hosting the National Police Remembrance Service in Sacred Heart Cathedral on **Friday 27 September**.

Gathered police will march to the Cathedral beginning at 9.30am, with the Service beginning at 10am.

Members of the diocesan community are welcomed and encouraged to gather for this Service as an expression of our support and prayer for the members of the NSW Police Force, and particularly those who have died in the last twelve months.

Combined Churches Service—Dungog

Dungog Parish will be hosting the next Combined Churches Service on **Sunday 29 September** starting at **6.30pm**. The service will be followed by a supper in the Parish Hall.

Please come along to join with our Christian brothers and sisters from Dungog in prayer and worship and in Christian fellowship over supper.

Please also bring a plate to share for supper.



Free To A Good Home

Located in our Parish Hall are two items that are no longer needed: a piano (in need of tuning), and an organ and stool. They are 'free to a good home'; they just need to be collected and removed. If these items are something you might be interested in acquiring, then please contact Fr Andrew or the Parish Office.

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.

Season of Creation—Creation Sings

All in the Newcastle, Hunter and Manning community are invited to gather to sing in praise and wonder of creation as part of marking the Season of Creation. In the spirit of community choirs, we will gather on Saturday 21 September in Sacred Heart Cathedral, between 2pm and 4pm, to learn a song, pray together and then share afternoon tea.

You are also invited to bring a cutting of a favourite plant to exchange during the time of prayer. If you would like to come along, please register by going to bit.ly/3M16gVw.

Those who love taking photos of nature can join the Season of Creation Photography initiative by submitting images to be displayed during Creation Sings. Please submit your image or images to rose.mcallister@mn.catholic.org.au by 16 September.

Upcoming CTC Events

The Catholic Theological College (Melbourne) is a teaching institution of the University of Divinity.



CATHOLIC
THEOLOGICAL
COLLEGE

Upcoming events at CTC include:

- Information Session for Educators
- Information Session for Prospective Students
- Engaging Your Faith Online sessions



UNIVERSITY
OF DIVINITY

For more information visit ctc.edu.au/news-and-events or ctc.edu.au/contact/contact-the-registrar.

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.

The Catholic Parishes of Dungog & Gresford acknowledge the Worimi and Wonnarua peoples on whose traditional lands we live and work, and their continuing deep and abiding attachment to the land.

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.

Letter of Bishop Michael Kennedy

Bishop Michael has written the following letter, dated 13 August 2024, to the diocesan community in preparation for the observance of the Perpetual Day of Remembrance.

My Dear People,

In 2020 my predecessor Bishop Bill Wright decreed that the Sunday on or immediately prior to 15 September each year would be inscribed in the liturgical calendar of the Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle as the 'Perpetual Day of Remembrance'. Those familiar with the Church's liturgical calendar would recognise that 15 September is also the day for "Our Lady of Sorrows". How could any of us fail to see and understand that the abuse of children by those placed in positions of leadership and trust in the Church is one of, if not the greatest, cause of sorrow in our Church's long history.

Even the mere recognition that such abominations have occurred in our Church causes us great pain and sorrow. How much greater is the pain of those who have been abused and still suffer because of that abuse, and how much greater than our own sorrow must be the sorrow of Our Lord Jesus and his mother Mary.

"To remember" can be a deeply spiritual and religious action. In the Old Testament, God's chosen people were often exhorted to remember the many good things that God had done for them as well as remembering their own sins and transgressions. Remembering God's goodness, both to ourselves as individuals and collectively as his people, produces gratitude and hope. Remembering our transgressions, both our own personal transgressions and the transgressions of the collective Church, produces redemptive sorrow and genuine conversion.

To assist us as the Church of Maitland-Newcastle to pray in this space the Perpetual Day of Remembrance Standing Committee of the Diocesan Liturgy Council once again offers a range of resources for use in our parishes, schools, agencies, groups, and homes. It has been determined that the resources this year include only minor changes from last year since later this year my office will undertake a review into the best way for us as a community to observe the Perpetual Day of Remembrance.

The resources for 2024 are available on the diocesan website for parishes and schools who wish to begin their preparation. There is something there for everyone including Diocesan agencies, individuals, households and community groups. [Resources - Perpetual Day of Remembrance](#)

I commend these resources to you and your local community for our remembering and praying.

Yours in Christ

Bishop Michael Kennedy

Vinnies Hunter Are Looking For Volunteers

The St Vincent de Paul Society ('Vinnies') are looking for members and volunteers across the Maitland-Newcastle area in a range of roles:

- Administration and Reception volunteers (*in Maitland and Newcastle*)
- Frontline Community Support (Emergency Relief) Volunteers and Conference Members
- Inbound Call Centre phone operators (*Newcastle*)
- Hamper and pantry packing and sorting
- Vinnies Van crew volunteers and drivers (drivers must be 25+)
- Retail Volunteers

Many of the opportunities come with flexible hours to suit volunteers of all skill levels, and all the training and mentoring required is provided.

If you're interested or just want some additional information call 0490 255 100 or send an email to maitland.newcastle@vinnies.org.au.

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

24th Week in Ordinary Time

Monday 16 September

Memorial of Sts Cornelius and Cyprian

Tuesday 17 September

8.30am Mass @ Dungog

Wednesday 18 September

NO MASS Fr Andrew to Newcastle for clergy meetings.

Thursday 19 September

NO MASS Fr Andrew facilitating the delivery of liturgical formation

Friday 20 September

Memorial of Sts Andrew Kim Tae-gŏn, Paul Chŏng Ha-sang and companions

9.30am Mass @ Dungog

Saturday 21 September

Feast of St Matthew

5.30pm Mass @ East Gresford

Sunday 22 September

25th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year B

8am Mass @ Clarence Town

9.30am Mass @ Dungog

Today's Liturgy:

Please note that today's liturgy for Perpetual Day of Remembrance Sunday will not be found in your personal missal. The texts of scripture and other components are determined by the decree that establishes today's observance in the diocesan liturgical calendar.

Scripture Readings: 1st Ezekiel 37:1-14; 2nd Romans 14:7-9; **Gospel** Luke 1:46-56.

Responsorial Psalm: My soul is thirsting for the living God

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia! Shine in the world like bright stars;
you are offering it the word of life. Alleluia!

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

Commission to Shine the Light of Christ

To be included as a prelude to the final blessing:

Priest: Let us walk in the Light of the Lord.
Let us not fear the past.
when our hearts were heavy.

All: Let us Shine the Light of Christ. (Is 2:5)

Priest: Let us bring light from the darkness.
Let us make evil good
and find sweet in the bitter.

All: Let us Shine the Light of Christ. (Is 5:20)

Priest: Let us weep together
when the light grew dark with the clouds,
from the darkness and distress. (Is 5:30)

All: Let us Shine the Light of Christ. (Is 5:30)

Priest: Let us walk with our brothers and sisters,
those who have walked in darkness.
Let them see the great Light of God.

All: Let us Shine the Light of Christ. (Is 9:2)

Ode to the Light of Christ

Come, let us walk in the Light of the Lord.
Let us not fear the past
when our hearts were heavy. (Is. 2:5)
Let us Shine the Light of Christ.

Come, let us bring light from the darkness.
Let us make evil good
and find sweet in the bitter. (Is. 5:20)
Let us Shine the Light of Christ.

Come, let us weep together
when the light grew dark with the clouds,
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Let us Shine the Light of Christ.

Come, let us walk with our brothers and sisters,
those who have walked in darkness. (Is. 9:2)
Let them see the great Light of God
and let us Shine the Light of Christ.

Composed by **Fiona Duque** © 2019 Diocese of Maitland- Newcastle. All rights reserved.

In Your Charity, Please Pray for:

Those Who Have Died: Pam O'Malley Jones

Those Whose Anniversary of Death Is In September: Annie & Brian Maurer, Peggy Brennan, Godfrey Barry, Tony O'Hearn, Fr Brian Quillinan, Pat Byron, Marjory Neilson, Ivy Hinton, Arthur Sonter, Ron Neilson, Fr Peter Quirk, Tony & Mary Maurer, Kath Morrow, Frances Amy Young, Rowland Young, Dennis Melmouth, Dot Shurrey, Mary Moylan, Norm Barham, Eileen Godwin, Warren Trappel, Lachlan Tindall, Brian Byron, Margaret Moule, John Melmeth, Beryl Cooper, Paul Evans, Peter Byron, Heather Dawn Atkins, Sr Pat McGinty RSM.

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. Faith Banister, Joanne Hancock.

Morning Tea at Dungog

The next morning tea at Dungog will be held after the 9.30am Mass TODAY (15 September) in our Parish Hall. Please stay and join us for good food, good company, and good conversation.

Baptisms Next Week

We welcome **Peter Soars**, together with his family and friends, as we celebrate his Baptism at 11am next Sunday at St Mary's, Dungog.

Pope Francis' Prayer Intention for September:

"Let us pray that each of us listen with our hearts to the cry of the Earth and of the victims of environmental disasters and the climate crisis, making a personal commitment to care for the world we inhabit."