



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, Summerhill via Vacy.

PENTECOST SUNDAY, YEAR C

8 JUNE 2025

Parish Staff

Fr Andrew Doohan (*Parish Priest*)
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Presbytery & Parish Office

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Parish Bulletin: 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: 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.



A Pastoral Note...

The celebration of Pentecost Sunday brings our celebration of Easter to a close (yes, the sung Easter dismissal will feature this weekend!).

Although today concludes the celebration of the Season of the Resurrection, the task we have as disciples of Jesus – to proclaim Christ's Life, Death, and Resurrection – never ends, and today's feast reminds us that we have been empowered by the Holy Spirit to go out into the world to be witnesses to what we hold and know to be true.

In one sense, the Resurrection brought Jesus' mission to a conclusion; but for believers it was only the beginning of our mission.

In the meantime, have a blessed week...

Fr Andrew

HISTORICAL CONTEXT

Pentecost

The word Pentecost comes from the Greek for fiftieth day. Pentecost Sunday ends the season of Easter and comes as a Sabbath day after seven weeks of seven days. In Jewish tradition the 50th day after the Passover was celebrated as a blessing of the harvest and rather than the unleavened bread of Passover it was celebrated by leavening the bread. It was for this reason that the disciples were gathered together when they experienced the Holy Spirit empowering them. In Christian tradition, Pentecost is celebrated as the arrival of the Spirit, promised by Jesus, that animated the disciples to spread the gospel of Jesus and gather believers to form what would eventually become the Church.

SRE Reflection Day with Bishop Michael

Are you a teacher of Special Religious Education or someone eager to explore this vital ministry?

Come and be inspired at Bishop Michael's Reflection Day – a special gathering to reflect, learn, and connect. Join us on Thursday 10 July at St Stephen's, Tea Gardens from 9.30am to 12.30pm.

Deepen your understanding, share experiences, and be encouraged in your role. For more information and to register visit the website via the link t.ly/Egb5V.

Bishop's Flood Appeal – Manning Community

In direct response to the ongoing need of flood-impacted people in the Manning, Bishop Michael has launched a Flood Appeal to directly support those who have moved into the recovery phase.

The appeal will collect and distribute funds to the local parishes who are providing on the ground support to people as they seek to rebuild their lives.

That link is also available by going to <https://mn.catholic.org.au/bishopsappeal/>. This link also contains the bank account details for anyone wishing to contribute via direct bank transfer rather than by providing credit card details. The Catholic Community Fund has undertaken to match all donations received up to an amount of \$25,000.

Connect With Us Via Social Media

Our parishes now have a presence on social media to assist in getting timely messages out, or to share news and interesting items.

We are now on Facebook, Instagram and Threads – all with the same username (dgcatholic). The links to these are also available on the front page of our website (look to the right-hand side).

In addition to specific messages on social media, any item posted to via our website will also be posted to the social media feeds automatically. This includes the weekly bulletin message and anything else that appears on our website under the 'Latest News' page.

A Pilgrimage Around Our Parish

As we prepare to merge our two parishes into the new Parish of St Francis of Assisi, Dungog Gresford, I'd like to propose a little pilgrimage around the churches of what will become St Francis of Assisi Parish, Dungog Gresford.

Starting at St Mary's, Dungog, we would then travel to St Patrick's, Clarence Town, and then finally conclude at St Helen's, East Gresford. The recent wet weather has guaranteed that we won't be able to get to Sacred Heart, Summer Hill on this particular occasion – but there'll be plenty of chances going forward.

If we start at, say, 8.30am, I believe we could make the journey easily enough to conclude by lunch time. At each location we will hear Scripture proclaimed and spend some time in prayer.

Carpooling would be ideal, both for ease and to promote participation. So come along and join your fellow parishioners on this little journey of faith.

Fr Andrew

The End of Financial Year Approaches...

With the arrival of June, we come to that 'funny' period of the year that is the lead up to 30 June and the closing of the 2024-25 Financial Year.

It can be a time of great interest as we prepare to close the financial records for one year and embark on a new set of records, but for us, here in Dungog & Gresford, there is an added dimension for 30 June 2025.

And that is because 30 June 2025 will represent the ending of St Mary's Parish, Dungog and St Helen's Parish, Gresford as separate entities and, just one day later, the emergence of St Francis of Assisi Parish, Dungog Gresford.

In preparation for the end of the 2024-25 Financial Year and the beginning of our new identity, there are a few things that we should all be aware of:

1. Tax Receipts for 2024-25

If you would like to receive a 2024-25 Tax Receipt for your Planned Giving contribution, now is the time to let the Parish Office know.

Please mark your envelope with this request on any weekend this month, send an email to the parish email address (see the front page), or drop a written note to the office any way you can. Please note that this information must be received by 30 June 2025 in order that receipts can be made available in a timely manner after the close of the financial year.

Tax Receipts will only be issued to those who have requested them – late requests may not be able to be accommodated.

2. Future Planned Giving

As decided at the Parishes Assembly held on 30 November 2024, the 2024-25 Financial Year is the last year for our Planned Giving Programme in the parishes (or the new parish).

As a result, there will be no new giving envelopes issued for the 2025-26 Financial Year.

Instead of envelopes, parishioners are simply invited to place their cash in the respective collection baskets each week or, if they are so inclined, to transfer the money electronically using the bank account details found elsewhere in the bulletin with whatever regularity works for them. Either of these two options is perfectly acceptable, and the choice is entirely up to individual givers.

Money contributed to the Second Collection will no longer be recorded individually so there is no need to put cash into an envelope with your name and "number" on it; simply place the cash directly into the appropriate basket.

The removal of the Planned Giving programme will alleviate a financial and administrative burden

from the Parish and the Parish Office, thereby making more of your generous contribution available for parish activities. And your continued generosity in supporting the Parish and its needs is greatly appreciated.

3. The Diocesan App

We've been advised the Diocesan App is being withdrawn, both as a source of information and as a means of enabling financial contributions to be made.

For those who may have used the Diocesan App for this latter purpose, there is now the option of contributing electronically using the bank details found in the bulletin, or via the Parish page on the Diocesan website.

If you require additional information about this, please contact Fr Andrew who will assist in the transition.

4. Transition of Bank Account Details

As you might expect, each of the two current parishes maintains its own bank account for the Second Collection, the account that receives your donations and pays the parish expenses.

With the upcoming merger to become St Francis of Assisi Parish, we will be moving to have only one bank account for the Second Collection – and for largely pragmatic reasons, we will use the existing Dungog account, suitably renamed, for this purpose.

If you are going to set up a new electronic transfer after the merger, please use the bank account number that is currently assigned to Dungog Parish. If you currently have a transfer going to the existing Gresford Second Collection account, it would be appreciated if you could amend your transfer to go to the other second collection bank account number from 1 July 2025.

The current Gresford Second Collection account will not close immediately – we'll keep it open for a few months to ensure an easy transfer of operations and to make sure nothing is lost during the merging.

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:

Responsorial Psalm:

Lord, send out your Spirit and renew the face of the earth.

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, alleluia!

Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful and kindle in them the fire of your love.

Alleluia!

Memorial Acclamation:

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

Morning Tea at Dungog

The next morning tea at St Mary's, Dungog will take place after the 9.30am Mass next Sunday (15 June) in the Parish Hall.

Please bring a plate to share and join us to enjoy refreshment, conversation and company.



In Your Charity, Please Pray For:

Those Who Have Died: Janet Lawrence.

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, Margaret Mary Dooley.

Those Who Are Sick: Maryann Smith, Daphne Bond, 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, Neville Barry, Susan Barlow, Allwyn Gippel, Christine Elliott, Jean Robertson, Jessica Byron, Gwen Trappel.

Papal Prayer Intention for June: Let us pray that each one of us might find consolation in a personal relationship with Jesus, and from his Heart, learn to have compassion on the world.

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

Tenth Week in Ordinary Time

Monday 9 June

Memorial of Mary, Mother of the Church

Tuesday 10 June

8.30am Mass @ Dungog

Wednesday 11 June

Memorial of St Barnabas

8.30am Mass @ Dungog

Thursday 12 June

9.30am Mass @ East Gresford

Friday 13 June

Memorial of St Anthony of Padua

9.30am Mass @ Dungog (we will be joined by Years 3 & 4 from St Joseph's School)

Saturday 14 June

5.30pm Mass @ East Gresford

Sunday 15 June

Solemnity of the Most Holy Trinity

8am Mass @ Clarence Town

9.30am Mass @ Dungog

11.30am Baptism

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.

For more information and resources, please visit the website of the Office of Safeguarding [here](#).

The Catholic Parishes of Dungog and Gresford acknowledge the people of the Worimi and Wonnarua nations, on whose traditional lands we gather, live, and work. We acknowledge 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.