



St. Brigid's Church
Raymond Terrace



St. Christopher's Oratory
Medowie



Our Lady Help of Christians Church
Mallabula

ST. BRIGID'S PARISH - RAYMOND TERRACE

Sunday 1st February 2026 ~ Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year A)

"Our Parish will be a vital, caring and welcoming community, living the Gospel of Jesus in word and action."

PARISH INFORMATION

Parish Office:

65 William Street, Raymond Terrace
PO Box 10 Raymond Terrace NSW 2324

Phone: (02) 49871888

Email: rtparish@mn.catholic.org.au

Web: www.stbrigidraymondterrace.com.au

Office Hours: Monday: Office Closed
Tuesday to Friday: 9.30am - 2.30pm

Fr. Joyce Sebastian Victor

Administrator : St. Brigid's Parish
Parish Priest : Myall Coast Parish
Dean : Myall Deanery

Fr. Peter Thoai

Assistant Priest
St. Brigid's Parish & Myall Coast Parish

Parish Secretary: Kate Allen

Financial Secretary: Phil Hickling

Sacramental Coordinator: Maryjane Malone

ST. BRIGID'S

69 William St, Raymond Terrace

Weekend Masses:

Saturday 5.00pm and Sunday 9.30am

Weekday Masses:

Tuesday and Wednesday 7.00am
Friday 9.15am

Reconciliation: Saturday 4.15pm

ST. CHRISTOPHER'S

507 Medowie Rd, Medowie

Weekend Mass:

Saturday 6.00pm

Weekday Masses:

Tuesday and Friday at 5.30pm

Reconciliation: Friday 5.00pm

OUR LADY HELP OF CHRISTIANS

1193 Lemon Tree Passage Rd, Mallabula

Weekend Mass:

Sunday 7.30am

Weekday Mass:

Thursday 9.15am

Reconciliation: Sunday 7.00am

Thoughts on the Gospel



The gospel of Matthew is keen to cast Jesus in the role of the 'new Moses'. Moses was revered in Jewish history not only as the one who led the people out of Egypt, but even more importantly as the one who received the Ten Commandments from God.

The first five books of the Bible, known to Jews as the Torah, or the Law, were accredited to Moses for a very long time. So Moses was seen as the one who received the Commandments from God and who also wrote down the Law of the people, the Torah. He was the Law-Giver for the Jewish people.

When the gospel of Matthew portrays Jesus as the new Moses it emphasises the way in which Jesus sought to bring the Law of Moses to fulfilment and bring about a new understanding and appreciation of both the Law and God. Jesus introduced a new way of perceiving God; as a God of compassion and mercy, rather than the jealous, vengeful God that is often expressed in the Old Testament.

The Sermon on the Mount that begins with the Beatitudes comes out of this historical context. Jesus is trying to present a new interpretation of the right way to be in relationship with God; one that is not dominated by rules and regulations. The text is so familiar to us today that it is almost bland. However, at the time it must have been incredibly confronting. The attitudes and states of being that Jesus blesses were not the characteristics that were valued in the society of his time. Poverty, gentleness and mourning were not considered strong, desirable qualities. So, the picture Jesus paints of how to be in right relationship with God and others was confronting the standards and expectations of the time.

A reflection by Greg Sunter.

READINGS FOR THIS SUNDAY

FIRST READING: Zephaniah 2:3, 3:12-13 ~ In your midst I will leave a humble and lowly people.

SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 1:26-31 ~ God has chosen what is weak by human reckoning.

GOSPEL READING: Matthew 5:1-12 ~ Happy are the poor in spirit.

Please remember the following people in your prayers:

The Sick

Lucy Went, Tony Murphy, Linda Birt, Peter Betwell, Alicia Proctor, Rachael Hill, Kevin McKinley, Dianna McKinley, Alan James, David Ross, John Flynn, Michael Johnson, Robyn Turner, Sarah Carter, Yvonne Bailey, Hugo Rice, Christine Natson, Kylie Scott, Andrew Pelley, Lila Lineham, Keith Smith, Justen Bailey, Patricia Bowmaker, Kerrie, Christine, Johanne Kenning, Michael O'Halloran, Ted Lyons, Matthew Carter, Margaret Spooner, Carmel Walker, Jan, Eileen Mullen, Andrew Trivers, Elaine Margery, Bishop Michael Malone, Coral McCaull, Zeljka Woods, Jessica Byron, Judith Robbins, Elaine Roberts, Clare Lyons, Carol Bourke, Bernadette Clarke, Lisa Pritchard, Ian Robertson, Sue Dainton, Susan Munnelly and Rae Blyton.

The Recently Deceased

Annette Harden



(Masses will be offered on request. Due to privacy laws, names of the sick and deceased can only be put in the bulletin with the permission of the immediate family.)

St. Brigid's Feast Day Mass

Mass will be celebrated on Sunday 1st February at 9.30am at St. Brigid's R/Tce to celebrate St. Brigid's Feast Day. Refreshments will be provided after Mass in the Parish Hall.



The Holy Triduum



2nd April: This year on Maundy Thursday *Mass of the Lord's Supper* will be celebrated at Our Lady Help of Christians Church Mallabula at 7.00pm.

3rd April: This year on Good Friday *The Lord's Passion* will be held at St Christopher's Oratory Medowie at 3.00pm

4th April: This year on Holy Saturday *Easter Vigil* and Baptisms will be celebrated at St. Brigid's Church Raymond Terrace at 7.30pm.

All the members of the Parish are requested to fully participate in the Holy Triduum.

Stations of the Cross & Easter Sunday Mass Times

St. Brigid's, Raymond Terrace

Friday 3rd April	Stations of the Cross	10.00am
Sunday 5th April	Easter Sunday Mass	9.30am

Our Lady Help of Christians, Mallabula

Friday 3rd April	Stations of the Cross	9.15am
Sunday 5th April	Easter Sunday Mass	7.30am

St. Christopher's, Medowie

Friday 3rd April	Stations of the Cross	9.15am
Sunday 5th April	Easter Sunday Mass	8.30am

Launch of 2028 Sydney International Eucharistic Congress Holy Hour 1st March 2026

Sunday 1st March 2026, has been chosen as the day to launch the 2028 Sydney International Eucharistic Congress. On Sunday 1st March 2026 a Holy Hour of Eucharistic Adoration will be take place after the 9.30am Mass at St. Brigid's Church Raymond Terrace.

Fr Anton Perera is Appointed Assistant Priest

Bishop Michael has Appointed Fr Anton Perera as Assistant Priest to the Parishes of St. Brigid's Raymond Terrace and Myall Coast. His appointment is from 17th February 2026.



Fr Peter Thoai

Fr Peter Thoai will be going on longer leave and his leave period will begin from 16th February 2026 until 16th July 2026.

Change to Mass Time at St. Brigid's on Friday 6th February

Kindly note that Mass on Friday 6th February at St. Brigid's Raymond Terrace will be celebrated at 7am (not at the usual time of 9.15am) as Fr Joyce will be attending the Catherine McAuley Opening School Liturgy.

SCAE Helpers

If you would like to help with the SCAEs please give your name to the Parish Office and then training will be organised.

Parish Lenten Discussion Group

There will be a Parish Lenten Discussion Group in St. Brigid's Parish Hall commencing at 7pm on Thursday 19th February. All welcome.

Feast of the Presentation of the Lord

Mass will be celebrated on Monday 2nd February at 7.00am at St. Brigid's Church Raymond Terrace on the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord.

Third Meeting towards the Parish Pastoral Council and Parish Finance Council

The Third Meeting towards the Parish Pastoral Council and Parish Finance Council will be held on Tuesday 10th February at 9am at St. Brigid's Parish Hall. All the members of the Parish are welcome.

Ash Wednesday ~ 18th February

The following Masses will be held on Ash Wednesday:

7.00am at St. Brigid's Raymond Terrace
9.15am at Our Lady Help of Christians Mallabula
5.30pm at St. Christopher's Medowie



Sacramental Journey

The Sacramental Journey to form and prepare baptised Catholic children to receive the Sacraments of Reconciliation, Confirmation and First Holy Communion will begin in February 2026. If you would like your child to participate you are invited to attend a parent information evening on Wednesday 11th February 2026 at 7:00pm at St. Brigid's Church. The Sacramental Journey then commences with a Communal Prayer Night for parents and children on Tuesday 17th February 2026 at St. Brigid's Church. For more information please call Maryjane on 0499 824 130.

Mass Replaces the SCAE at St. Brigid's on 28th March

A Mass will be celebrated on Saturday 28th March (not a SCAE) at 5pm at St. Brigid's Raymond Terrace on the occasion of Palm Sunday.

Bulletin Notices

Please see the back page of this Bulletin for more notices.

MASS AT HOME

Live stream Sunday Mass from the Sacred Heart Cathedral Newcastle

You can watch the live stream from the Sacred Heart Cathedral every Sunday at 9.30am by visiting the website: www.mn.catholic.org.au and clicking on "Sunday Mass Live Streams".

Watch Mass For You At Home on TV from the Diocese of Wollongong

You can watch *Mass for You at Home* on Channel Ten at 6am on Sundays or on Foxtel's Aurora Channel (173) at 10am on Sundays.

Watch Mass Online

Visit these websites: www.10play.com.au or www.massforyou.com.au to watch *Mass for You at Home* at a time convenient to you.

DIOCESE OF MAITLAND-NEWCASTLE

To find out 'What's On' in our Diocese visit their website www.mn.catholic.org.au or call them on 49 79 1111 (Monday to Friday).

ROSARY

The Rosary is prayed before Mass at St. Brigid's Raymond Terrace every Friday, Saturday and Sunday.

The Rosary is prayed at 7am every Sunday at Our Lady Help of Christians Mallabula.

The Rosary is prayed before Mass at St. Christopher's Medowie every Tuesday, Friday and Saturday.

SCAE ROSTER

First Weekend: 5.00pm Saturday
St. Brigid's Raymond Terrace

Second Weekend: 6.00pm Saturday
St. Christopher's Medowie

Third Weekend: 7.30am Sunday
Our Lady Help of Christians Mallabula

Fourth Weekend: 9.30am Sunday
St. Brigid's Raymond Terrace

Fifth Weekend: 5.00pm Saturday
St. Brigid's Raymond Terrace

PARISH BULLETIN

To have a name placed on the Death Anniversaries or Sick List please ensure that you phone or email Kate at the Parish Office before 11.30am on Thursdays.

ADORATION

First Friday of the Month at St. Brigid's Raymond Terrace at 8.30am.

Every Friday at 5.00pm at St. Christopher's Medowie.

SAFEGUARDING

The Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle
Office of Safeguarding: 4979 1390

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY

Newcastle: 49 676 277
Mallabula: 0402 087 401 (Brian)

ST. BRIGID'S, RAYMOND TERRACE

	Welcomer	Ministers of the Word	Extra-Ordinary Ministers of Communion	Presentation of Gifts
31/1/26	Mary Thorpe	Clare Dawson Vannessa Tasker	Carmel Warby Vannessa Tasker	Rodney Trappel Pauline Trappel
1/2/26	Vinette Shrimpton	Phil Hickling Astrid Hartcher	Steve Hickling Sharon Blyton	Linda Birt Elenoa Cutmore
7/2/26	Mary Thorpe	Brendon Mannyx Volunteer Please	Tracey Edstein Clare Dawson	Paul Edstein Barbara Edstein
8/2/26	Margaret Pryer	Sharon Blyton Christina Cutting	Phil Hickling Vinette Shrimpton	Catherine Hickling Helen Taylor

OUR LADY HELP OF CHRISTIANS, MALLABULA

	Ministers of the Word	Commentator	Presentation of Gifts
1/2/26	Catherine Kilpatrick	Jeremy Clark	Anne Cheetham & Albert Went
8/2/26	Cynthia Rogers	Carmel Volker	Val Betwell & Carmel Volker

ST. CHRISTOPHER'S, MEDOWIE

	Open, Close & Lock	Welcomer	Minsters of the Word	Presentation of Gifts	Acolyte
31/1/26	Greg Hammond Nina Hammond	John White Leonie White	Ingrid Cacciato Yvonne Carolan	Patrick Byron Ann Byron	Noel Tucker
7/2/26	Music Ministry SCAE Leader: Patrick	Mary L Sultana	Ingrid Cacciato Noel Tucker	Candle Bearers: Denise D and Ann K	Communion Minister: Jenny Garrett

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON: Save us, O Lord our God! And gather us from the nations, to give thanks to your holy name, and make it our glory to praise you.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: Happy the poor in spirit; the kingdom of heaven is theirs!

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: Alleluia, alleluia! Rejoice and be glad; Your reward will be great in heaven. Alleluia!

COMMUNION ANTIPHON: Let your face shine on your servant. Save me in your merciful love. O Lord, let me never be put to shame, for I call on you.

HYMNS FOR THIS WEEKEND AT ST. BRIGID'S RAYMOND TERRACE

Glory & Praise ~ Hymn 16

Gather Your People ~ Hymn 71

Come as you Are ~ Hymn 31

How Great Thou Art ~ Hymn 94

Invitation to Medowie Friendship

An invitation is extended to all parishioners from Medowie, Mallabula and Raymond Terrace to the following friendship events:

- First Monday of the Month: Cuppa at the Greenhouse (Pacific Dunes) at 10.00am. For more details please call Nina on 0428 848 033.
- First Thursday of the Month: Ladies' Dinner. For more details please call Leonie on 0418 456 072.
- First Thursday of the Month: Men's Dinner at the Bull n Bush Hotel Medowie. For more details please call Patrick on 0409 648 837.
- Second Tuesday of the Month: Craft and Cuppa at Nina's. For more details please call Nina on 0428 848 033.
- Third Weekend of the Month: Cuppa after the Saturday 6pm Mass at St. Christopher's Oratory Medowie.

Rite of Election

Humans are seekers of purpose and meaning. This search brings many to faith, to Christianity and to the Catholic Church. As a church community we welcome these people through the celebration of the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA). In this process we accompany them as their relationship with Jesus grows and they learn from us how to live as disciples of Jesus within the Catholic Church. It is a joy when our whole Church gathers to support and pray for our Catechumens. We invite you to pray with them at the Rite of Election on Sunday 22nd February at 1.30pm at the Sacred Heart Cathedral. Please RSVP for catering purposes to: mission@mn.catholic.org.au

Burning Brighter SRE Expo Monday 2nd February

This is a free Expo for current and prospective SRE teachers and helpers. The expo will be held at Maryland from 9.30am-2pm. For more info call: 0490 130 576. Bookings are essential via the following link: <https://huntersre.com.au/event/sre-expo-burning-brighter/>.

Praying Scripture Group

The Praying Scripture group will start meeting at 2:30pm on Saturday 21st February at the Diocesan Resource Centre adjacent to Sacred Heart Cathedral Hamilton during Lent to pray and reflect on the Lenten Gospels. We will continue to meet after Easter with a particular focus on the Gospel of John this year. You can contact Wayne Caruana for more information on 0466 631394.

Holy Cross Glendale Prayer Gathering

The Holy Cross Glendale Church (Oakland St Glendale) prayer gathering will start again on Friday 20th February after the 6:30pm Mass. There will be opportunity for Healing prayer during the night. Holy Cross Church – Oakland Street, Glendale

Lent 2026 with the Catholic Guy, Bruce Downes

Lent is a time when we can grow closer to God and prepare our hearts for the true meaning of Easter. Be inspired. Be refreshed. Be renewed! For 40 days you will receive a short, practical and inspiring video in your inbox every morning to help you make this Lenten journey more powerful and prayerful. This program is free and you can sign up by visiting: <https://brucedownes.org/lent-2026-sign-up/>

Special Religious Education (SRE) Volunteers

Each week our small group of dedicated Catechists teach Scripture (SRE) in our local public primary schools. We need more volunteers for 2026! Catechists have an incredible impact on the faith journey of the children that they teach. Do you have 1 or 2 hours to spare each week? Is this ministry your calling? If so, then please make contact with the Parish Office on 49 871 888 and we will put you in touch with our SRE coordinator. All training and resources are provided.

READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY

FIRST READING: Isaiah 58:7-10 ~ Your light will shine like the dawn.

SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 2:1-5 ~ I came to you to proclaim Christ crucified.

GOSPEL READING: Matthew 5:13-16 ~ You are the light of the world.