



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 26th April 2026 ~ Fourth Sunday of Easter (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: rparish@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

Asst Priest: Fr. Peter Thoai (on Leave)

Asst Priest: Fr. Anton Perera
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:

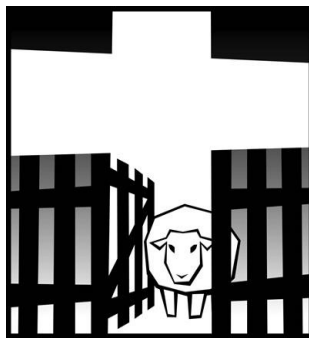
Sunday 7.30am

Weekday Mass:

Thursday 9.15am

Reconciliation: Sunday 7.00am

Thoughts on the Gospel



The fourth Sunday of Easter is sometimes known as Good Shepherd Sunday. In the three different cycles of the liturgical year, the gospel on this Sunday comes from John, chapter 10 – an extended discourse by Jesus on the image of himself as the good shepherd. This year the reading is the beginning of the chapter and stops just immediately before the words, 'I am the good shepherd'.

Our understanding of this whole image and the scene that is set in today's passage is very dependent upon a contextual understanding of the times. Whilst shepherds were generally regarded as being little better than criminals, they often put their lives in danger to tend to their flocks. Of a night time, several flocks of sheep would be penned in a communal sheepfold, usually made of stone walls. There was only one entrance to the sheepfold and one of the shepherds would effectively become the gate by sleeping across the entranceway. This was to keep the sheep in but also to guard against thieves. Thieves might climb over the wall into the sheepfold but the sheep were trained to respond to their shepherd's voice alone so thieves could only steal what sheep they could carry off or those that were not sufficiently trained to their shepherd's commands.

When Jesus described himself as the gate of the sheepfold, his audience would have immediately understood the analogy. For a shepherd to become the gate to the sheepfold of a night was to risk his life for not only his own sheep but all the sheep in the fold overnight. It took courage and demonstrated utter commitment.

A reflection by Greg Sunter.

READINGS FOR THIS SUNDAY

FIRST READING: Acts 2:14, 36-41 ~ God has made Jesus both Lord and Christ.

SECOND READING: 1 Peter 2:20-25 ~ You had gone astray but now you have come back to the shepherd and guarding of your souls.

GOSPEL READING: John 10:1-10 ~ I am the gate of the sheepfold.

Please remember the following people in your prayers:

The Sick

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

The Recently Deceased

Anthony (Tony) Bull and Gabrielle Pile.

Death Anniversaries

James Bourke and Eileen Bourke.

Special Intention

Cecilia (Safe Journey)



Good Shepherd Sunday & World Day of Prayer for Vocations

Sunday 26th April is Good Shepherd Sunday and World Day of Prayer for Vocations. A copy of the Holy Father's Message: *Message for the 63rd World Day of Prayer for Vocations 2026* has been emailed to those on the parish database but can also be found on the notice board, a few copies are available for collection from you Mass Centre or you can visit this link: <https://www.vatican.va/content/leo-xiv/en/messages/vocations/documents/20260316-messaggio-vocazioni.html>

Good Friday Holy Land Collection

Thank you to those that contributed towards the Good Friday Holy Land Collection. The total amount received was \$1,075.00.

Easter Dues

Thank you to those that contributed towards the Parish Easter Offerings/ Dues. The total amount received was \$1,315.00.

Project Compassion

Thank you to those that contributed towards the Caritas Australia Project Compassion Appeal. The total amount received was \$3,153.00.

Fr Joyce Annual Leave

Fr Joyce will be on Annual Leave in three phases this year. The first phase of leave will be from Tuesday 2nd June to Saturday 13th June. The second phase of leave will be from Monday 3rd August to Monday 10th August. The third phase of leave will be in November/December. Please keep Fr Joyce in your prayers for safe travels during his annual leave.

Change of Mass Time St. Brigid's Friday 1st May

Please note that Adoration will be held at 6.30am and Mass will be celebrated at 7.00am (not at the usual time of 9.15am) on Friday 1st May at St. Brigid's Raymond Terrace as both Fr Joyce and Fr Anton will be attending Elizabeth Doyle's Retirement Mass in Newcastle at 9.30am.

National Count of Attendance 2026

The 2026 National Count of Attendance (Mass Count) will take place over the first four weekends in May. The method used for the count enables reporting of actual numbers attending on any particular weekend, at each Mass and the calculation of the total number likely to be in attendance on a typical weekend after special events, like Confirmations.

Listen to the Heart: Moving Forward Team

Join Fr Darryl Mackie and Aunty Wanda Smith in an informative morning to increase our knowledge and understanding of the deep spirituality of First Nations people, connection to Country and relationships with Faith. The discussion will be held on Saturday 2nd May from 8.30am-12.30pm at the Therry Centre, East Maitland. Register on the Diocesan website, www.mn.catholic.org.au

Formation Film: Jesus Revolution

A film based on the true story of a 1960's teenager, a pastor and a Christian hippie. Join us as we watch the film and share morning tea, lunch, and engage in robust discussion. The film will be shown on Saturday 2nd May from 11am-1pm at the Diocesan Resource Centre. To register please visit: <https://forms.office.com/r/KYdg9Q3DTq> or call Mary on 0409 033 449.

Vocations Come and See Retreat Day

All are welcome to attend the Vocations Come and See Retreat Day on Saturday 16th May from 9am-3.30pm at the Hunter Wetlands Centre Shortland. Pray and reflect in a peaceful setting and attend Mass with Bishop Michael Kennedy. RSVP using the QR code on the flyer on the notice board at your Mass Centre.

**Invitation: St. Patrick's Singleton Women's Guild
60th Anniversary**

The St Patrick's Parish Singleton invites parishioners and past members of the St Patrick's Women's Guild to attend a celebration marking 60 years of service to our community on Saturday 13th June at 9.20am (for Mass) followed by the Anniversary Luncheon. Established in April 1966, the Guild has remained a steadfast pillar of parish life. Please RSVP, to assist with catering and logistics, to the Singleton Parish Office by 30th May via email: singleton.branxton@mn.catholic.org.au or call the Singleton Parish Office on (02) 5507 4048. Specific details regarding venue and cost will be circulated to all who RSVP.

**Ordination to the Permanent Diaconate of
Mr Christopher Voigt**

The Most Reverend Michael Kennedy and the Catholic Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle cordially invites The People of the Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle to the Ordination to the Permanent Diaconate of Mr Christopher Voigt by Most Reverend Michael Kennedy on 23rd May 2026 at 10am in the Sacred Heart Cathedral, 841 Hunter St, Newcastle West

Pilgrimage to Ireland - St Francis of Assisi Parish

St Francis of Assisi Parish Dungog Gresford are organising a 'Soul of Ireland' Pilgrimage departing 21st September 2026. A copy of the itinerary is available on the notice board at your Mass Centre or by visiting: www.dungoggresfordcatholic.org.au. All are welcome to join. Please contact Fr Andrew Doohan at: andrew.doohan@mn.catholic.org.au or on: 0412 405 671.

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).

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

ROSARY

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

The Rosary is prayed at 7am Sunday and 8.45am Thursdays at Our Lady Help of Christians Mallabula.

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

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
25/4/26	Mary Thorpe	Maureen Smith Tracey Edstein	Paul Edstein Carmel Warby	Mary Thorpe
26/4/26	Vinette Shrimpton	Christina Cutting Vinette Shrimpton	Steve Hickling Sharon Blyton	Helen Taylor Christina Cutting
2/5/26	Mary Thorpe	Brendon Mannyx Clare Dawson	Vannessa Tasker Tracey Edstein	Mannyx Family
3/5/26	Margaret Pryer	Robert Woolley Shane Giggins	Phil Hickling Vinette Shrimpton	Dalene Myers Vinette Shrimpton

OUR LADY HELP OF CHRISTIANS, MALLABULA

	Ministers of the Word	Commentator	Presentation of Gifts
26/4/26	Anne Cheetham	Jeremy Clark	Anne Cheetham & Albert Went
3/5/26	Jeremy Clark	Cynthia Rogers	Val Betwell & Carmel Volker

ST. CHRISTOPHER'S, MEDOWIE

	Open, Close & Lock	Welcomer	Minsters of the Word	Presentation of Gifts	Acolyte
25/4/26	Greg Hammond Nina Hammond	Mary L Sultana	Ann Byron Nina Hammond	Flynn Family	Patrick Byron
2/5/26	Greg Hammond Nina Hammond	Mary L Sultana	Kath Weir Leonie White	Chahoud Family	Andrew Chahoud

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON: The merciful love of the Lord fills the earth; by the word of the Lord the heavens were made, alleluia.
RESPONSORIAL PSALM: The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.
GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: Alleluia, alleluia! I am the good shepherd, says the Lord; I know my sheep, and mine know me. Alleluia!
COMMUNION ANTIPHON: The Good Shepherd has risen, who laid down his life for his sheep and willingly died for his flock, alleluia.

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

Be Not Afraid ~ *Hymn 114* Open my Eyes ~ *Hymn 166* The Lord is my Shepherd ~ *Hymn 26* Strong & Constant ~ *Hymn 110*

Marian Consecration Retreat ~ Starting Saturday 2nd May in Newcastle

You are invited to attend a self-directed online Marian Consecration Retreat, facilitated by members of the Newcastle Charismatic Renewal Group, during the Saturdays of the month of May. Starting Saturday 2nd May at 11am in the Toohey Room (Catholic Diocese of Newcastle Precinct, Newcastle West). The following Saturday sessions will be held at the Diocesan Resource Centre, adjacent to the Cathedral. The retreat is free to attend although you will need to purchase the book to read the daily reflections throughout the 33 days. Please contact Wayne Caruana on 046 6631 394 or register via the QR Code (on the poster on the notice board).

**Marian Talks – Starting Friday 8th May in MacKillop Parish Charlestown
“Behold Your Mother: Explaining and Defending the 4 Marian Dogmas”**

You are invited to attend Marian Talks at the MacKillop Parish at 7 Milson Street Charlestown on Fridays in May, starting on Friday 8th May. The Talks will commence at 6.30pm with the Holy Rosary followed by the Marian Talk at 7pm. Nationally known speaker, Simon Carrington, from Fire Up Ministries, will lead the Talks covering: Mary, Mother Of God, The Immaculate Conception Of The Blessed Virgin Mary, Mary's Perpetual Virginity and Mary's Bodily Assumption. Each session is self-contained, so you can attend any of the sessions. A donation of \$20 per talk would be appreciated to help cover the donation to the presenter and refreshments. Please register via the QR Code (on the poster on the notice board).

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.

Caritas Australia Lebanon Emergency Appeal

Lebanon is facing one of its most severe humanitarian crises in years, as a sudden surge in violence and mass evacuation orders force families to flee with nothing. Within 24 hours, Caritas Lebanon reported 667,831 newly displaced people seeking safety. Despite the volatile environment, Caritas Lebanon teams are operating across seven governorates, delivering food, essential items, healthcare, psychosocial support, water and hygiene assistance, and protection services. Let us stand in solidarity with our partners in Lebanon. Learn more or make a donation today at www.caritas.org.au/lebanon

Mission to Seafarers & Stella Maris Art Exhibition

Mission to Seafarers and Stella Maris would love to invite you to showcase your extraordinary artistic ability at our art show on 1st August 2026. Visit www.mtsnewcastle.org.au to see categories, prizes, terms and conditions and parental consent for independent children submissions.

Called & Gifted Discernment Process 2026 – Expressions of Interest Now Open

After the success of the 2025 trial, Mission & Evangelisation is working with the Catherine of Siena Institute to offer the Called & Gifted Discernment Process this year. We will again offer this life-changing discernment process, inviting you to discover your God-given charisms. Commencing in May 2026, step forward in faith and help our parishes thrive through use of your gifts. Express your interest online: https://forms.office.com/pages/responsepage.aspx?id=x2JU50ZySU-2DkekM06p1i_PFcQ4jWZAnWC3ylqUs5ZURjVCMuTYTjU2UE4wUfM0T01KTIA1MENVQi4u&route=shorturl

READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY

FIRST READING: Acts 6:1-7 ~ They elected seven men filled with the Spirit and wisdom.

SECOND READING: 1 Peter 2:4-9 ~ You are a chosen race, a royal priesthood.

GOSPEL READING: John 14:1-12 ~ I am the way, the truth and the life.