



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 17th May 2026 ~ The Ascension of the Lord (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](mailto:rparish@mn.catholic.org.au)

Web: [www.stbrigidraymondterrace.com.au](http://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 feast of the Ascension is really a kind of liminal moment in the Easter season. It is a time between times, a moment when we have left one place in our journey but have not yet arrived at a second. The glory of the Risen Christ has already been revealed in us, but not yet totally. The feast itself celebrates the exaltation of Jesus.

Today we stand awestruck, watching Jesus ascend into the clouds of heaven, there to be enthroned at the right hand of God.

Today we are overwhelmed by the reality of the divinity of the one whom we have known in his humanity. Like the conquering creator-god, he has overcome his enemy (death) and now reigns over his new creation (the church).

Christ who ascended into heaven in his body carries on what he began on earth through his new body, the church. He teaches through its apostles and evangelists. He ministers through its prophets and pastors. In and through the church, Jesus continues to heal and to comfort; to forgive and to include.

We have not been left alone; we have his power, the same power with which he performed marvels when he walked the earth. We have not been left alone; we have each other. Together we make up the new body of Christ. Together we await the fullness of this body. It is this new body that stands in between the times, secure in what we have, confident of what we will be given.

*A reflection by Dianne Bergant CSA*

### READINGS FOR THIS SUNDAY

**FIRST READING:** Acts 1:1-11 ~ Why are you standing here looking into the sky? Jesus has been taken into heaven.

**SECOND READING:** Ephesians 1:17-23 ~ He made Jesus to sit at his right hand in heaven.

**GOSPEL READING:** Matthew 28:16-20 ~ All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me.

**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.

### **Death Anniversaries**

Vera Hammond



*(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.)*

### **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.

### **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](mailto: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

### **Laudato Si' Week**

Laudato Si' Week runs from Sunday 17th May to Sunday 24th May. The week is a global celebration of Pope Francis' Encyclical Laudato Si' and a call to action for all of us to care for the environment in which we live. This year's theme is 'Seeds of Hope' and is inspired by the symbol for Season of Creation 2024, "firstfruits." It encourages us to be seeds of hope in our lives and our world, rooted in faith and love.

### **National Count of Attendance 2026 This Weekend**

The 2026 National Count of Attendance (Mass Count) will take place again this weekend, with additional information to be collected. 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. Thank you to those in our Parish that are assisting in the collection of this information and to all parishioners for their co-operation.

### **Mass will Replace the SCAE on 17th May at OLHC Mallabula**

Mass will be celebrated on Sunday 17th May (not a SCAE) at 7.30am at Our Lady Help of Christians Mallabula on the occasion of The Ascension of the Lord.

### **No Mass at OLHC Mallabula on Thursday 21st May**

Please note that the 9.15am Mass on Thursday 21st May will be cancelled as both Fr Joyce and Fr Anton will be attending a Clergy Conference.

### **Our Lady Help of Christians Feast Day Monday 25th May**

On the occasion of Our Lady Help of Christians Feast Day Fr Joyce will celebrate Mass at 7.30am on Monday 25th May at Our Lady Help of Christians Mallabula. All are welcome.

### **Sacrament of Confirmation 27th May**

Bishop Michael Kennedy will administer the Sacrament of Confirmation, to the children participating in our Sacramental Journey, on Wednesday 27th May at 7.00pm at St. Brigid's Raymond Terrace. Please pray for the children, their sponsors and their parents.

### **Mass will Replace the SCAE at St. Brigid's in May & 6th June**

Mass will be celebrated on the following dates (not a SCAE) at St. Brigid's Raymond Terrace:

- Sunday 24th May at 9.30am (Pentecost)
- Saturday 30th May at 5.00pm (The Most Holy Trinity)
- Saturday 6th June at 5.00pm (The Most Holy Body & Blood of Christ)

### **Pentecost – Our 'Gifting Sunday'**

As we approach the celebration of Pentecost, we recall the Holy Spirit filling the Church with courage and gifts for mission. In that same spirit, we invite parishioners to consider sharing their gifts in two key children's ministries: Special Religious Education (SRE) and Children's Liturgy of the Word. These ministries help young people grow in faith. Training and support are provided; only a willing heart is needed. Contact the Mission & Evangelisation Team by email: [mission@mn.catholic.org.au](mailto:mission@mn.catholic.org.au) to learn more.

### **Sister Jan Tranter Book Launch Sunday 31st May**

Sister Jan Tranter is well known throughout Australian Catholic, History and Scientific circles for her scholarly writings on Fr Julian Tenison Woods who has played such a pivotal role in the story of the Australian Josephite Sisters and our wider Australian Story. Recently Jan was invited to publish her many articles in a book entitled, Julian Tenison Woods, the Human Story: Priest, Founder, Friend. The Sisters of St Joseph, Lochinvar are delighted to announce the book will be launched by Bishop Michael Kennedy, in the Diocesan Resource Centre on Sunday 31st May at 2.00pm. All are welcome. RSVP: [office@ssjl.org.au](mailto:office@ssjl.org.au) or phone 4948-4063

### **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](http://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](http://www.10play.com.au) or [www.massforyou.com.au](http://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](http://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**

	<b>Welcomer</b>	<b>Ministers of the Word</b>	<b>Extra-Ordinary Ministers of Communion</b>	<b>Presentation of Gifts</b>
<b>16/5/26</b>	Mary Thorpe	Carmel Warby Maureen Smith	Volunteer Please Vannessa Tasker	Paul Edstein Barbara Edstein
<b>17/5/26</b>	Vinette Shrimpton	Astrid Hartcher Christina Cutting	Laurie Feenan Robert Woolley	Catherine Hickling Helen Taylor
<b>23/5/26</b>	Mary Thorpe	Tracey Edstein Brendon Mannyx	Tracey Edstein Clare Dawson	Mary Thorpe
<b>24/5/26</b>	Margaret Pryer	Vinette Shrimpton Robert Woolley	Steve Hickling Sharon Blyton	Christina Cutting Dalene Myers

### **OUR LADY HELP OF CHRISTIANS, MALLABULA**

	<b>Ministers of the Word</b>	<b>Commentator</b>	<b>Presentation of Gifts</b>
<b>17/5/26</b>	Greg Patteson	Carmel Volker	Sue Dallas & Elizabeth Currie
<b>24/5/26</b>	Catherine Kilpatrick	Greg Patteson	Anne Cheetham & Albert Went

### **ST. CHRISTOPHER'S, MEDOWIE**

	<b>Open, Close &amp; Lock</b>	<b>Welcomer</b>	<b>Minsters of the Word</b>	<b>Presentation of Gifts/ Candle Bearers</b>	<b>Acolyte</b>
<b>16/5/26</b>	Greg Hammond Nina Hammond	Yvonne Carolan	Nina Hammond Leonie White	Flynn Family	Andrew Chahoud
<b>23/5/26</b>	Greg Hammond Nina Hammond	Mary L Sultana	Mary Chahoud Yvonne Carolan	Denise Dawe Margaret Metcalf	Andrew Chahoud

**ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:** Men of Galilee, why gaze in wonder at the heavens? This Jesus whom you saw ascending into heaven will return as you saw him go, alleluia.

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM:** God mounts his throne to shouts of joy: a blare of trumpets for the Lord.

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:** Alleluia, alleluia! Go and teach all people my gospel. I am with you always, until the end of the world. Alleluia!

**COMMUNION ANTIPHON:** Behold, I am with you always, even to the end of the age, alleluia.

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

Here I am Lord ~ *Hymn 90*

Come to the Water ~ *Hymn 74*

I'll be Always Loving You ~ *Hymn 82*

Strong & Constant ~ *Hymn 110*

### **World Mission Rosary**

Join Catholic Mission online to honour Mother Mary during the month of May through praying the rosary. Monday to Friday from 2pm-3pm until 31st May. To join the online link scan the QR code on the notice board flyer or visit: [tinyurl.com/RosaryPrayer26](https://tinyurl.com/RosaryPrayer26)

### **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.

### **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](http://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 Open until 24th May**

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. Mission & Evangelisation is working with the Catherine of Siena Institute to offer the Called & Gifted Discernment Process. The process will be facilitated online by professionally trained practitioners based in the USA. In the future, a home-grown team will be trained to lead the process face-to-face at a local level. What does the Called & Gifted Discernment Process look like?

*Part One:* Go through the Called & Gifted™ introductory workshop (4 x Tuesday evenings 26th May-16th June from 7.30pm-9.00pm)

*Part Two:* After going through the introductory Called & Gifted workshop and taking the Catholic Spiritual Gifts Inventory, the second step is to have a one-hour personal gifts interview (between 22nd June to 10th July)

*Part Three:* Discernment in Depth conversations (4 x Tuesday evenings 14th July-25th August from 7.30pm-9.00pm)

To express your interest please complete the online form by Sunday 24th May.

Express your interest online: [https://forms.office.com/pages/responsepage.aspx?id=x2JU50ZySU-2DkekM06p1i\\_PFcQ4jWZAnWC3ylqUs5ZURjVCMUtYtjU2UE4wUfM0T01KTIA1MENVQi4u&route=shorturl](https://forms.office.com/pages/responsepage.aspx?id=x2JU50ZySU-2DkekM06p1i_PFcQ4jWZAnWC3ylqUs5ZURjVCMUtYtjU2UE4wUfM0T01KTIA1MENVQi4u&route=shorturl)

### **Bishop's Staff Day**

Our Parish is included in Bishop's Staff Day this year. We are calling on parishioners to take part on Tuesday 2nd June from 10:00am-2:00pm. This special gathering is an opportunity for diocesan staff to step out from their offices and into parish life to "come together around our shared mission" and connect more deeply with parish communities. Over 200 staff will be split into groups of 40 to visit one of seven parish sites, with our parish being one site. Your presence will help tell the story of our parish; it's faith, its people, it's quiet acts of service and hope. In meeting one another, we strengthen the bond that holds us together as the Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle. Please register through the sign-up sheet at your Mass Centre or email the Parish Office at: [rtparish@mn.catholic.org.au](mailto:rtparish@mn.catholic.org.au).

### **READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY**

**FIRST READING:** Acts 2:1-11 ~ They were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak different languages.

**SECOND READING:** 1 Corinthians 12:3-7, 12-13 ~ In the one Spirit we were all baptised, making one body.

**GOSPEL READING:** John 20:19-23 ~ As the Father sent me, so I send you: Receive the Holy Spirit.