

ST. BRIGID'S PARISH ~ RAYMOND TERRACE

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

Sunday 18th October 2026 ~ Twenty Ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year A)



St. Brigid's Church Raymond Terrace



St. Christopher's Oratory Medowie



Our Lady Help of Christians Church Mallabula

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.stbrigidrraymondterrace.com.au

Office Hours: Monday: 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

Fr. Anton Perera: Assistant Priest

St. Brigid's Parish & Myall Coast Parish

Parish Secretary: Kate Allen

Financial Secretary: Phil Hickling

Sacramental Coordinator: Maryjane Malone

ST. BRIGID'S CHURCH

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 ORATORY

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

Jesus first cleverly throws his questioners on the defensive. They are the ones carrying the coinage, not him. Then he poses the crucial question, 'Whose image is it and whose inscription?' They said to him, 'Caesar's'. Then he said to them: 'Render to Caesar what is Caesar's and to God what is God's.'

The coin bore the image and inscription of Caesar. Genesis teaches us that human beings are made in the image and likeness of God. Our Lord is saying, 'Let the political and financial authorities have their coinage. It is their legal tender. But they cannot have human beings. Human beings belong to Another. They belong to God.'

We are fortunate to live in a wonderful democracy. But even a democracy can violate the dignity of a human being created in the image and likeness of God. As Pope John Paul II said: 'Authentic democracy is possible only in a state ruled by law, and on the basis of a correct conception of the human person.'

We could pause for a moment to thank God for the inscription, 'Child of God', effectively engraved on our hearts by baptism.

A reflection by Fr Michael Tate.

READINGS FOR THIS SUNDAY

FIRST READING: Isaiah 45:1, 4-6 ~ I have taken the hand of Cyrus to subdue nations before his countenance.

SECOND READING: 1 Thessalonians 1:1-5 ~ We are mindful of your faith, hope and love.

GOSPEL READING: Matthew 22:15-21 ~ Give to Caesar the things that belong to Caesar and to God the things that are God's.

Please remember the following people in your prayers:

The Sick

Lucy Went, Tony Murphy, Linda Birt, Peter Betwell,
Kevin McKinley, Dianna McKinley, 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, Ted Lyons, Johanne Kenning,
Michael O'Halloran, Margaret Spooner, Jan,
Carmel Walker, Eileen Mullen, Andrew Trivers,
Elaine Margery, Rae Blyton, Coral McCaull,
Zeljka Woods, Jessica Byron, Judith Robbins,
Elaine Roberts, Clare Lyons, Carol Bourke, Lisa Pritchard,
Sue Dainton, Susan Munnery, Denis Cahill,
Linda Fitzsimmons, Frank Byron, Catherine Armitage,
Mary Josephine, Joyce Byron, Kevin Gibson, Bob James,
Patricia Simpson & Melissa Wade.



Parish Assembly Participants

All those who are attending the Parish Assembly are requested to attend the 9.30am Mass at St. Brigid's Raymond Terrace on 25th October and then proceed to the Parish Hall for the Parish Assembly immediately afterwards.

**Called to Know More:
How is the Church Organised?**

Ever wondered how the Church works behind the scenes? Discover how the Church is organised to fulfil its mission in the world and why the Code of Canon Law matters to every Catholic. Join Fr Matthew Muller, Vicar General and Canon Lawyer, for an introduction to the structures, people and principles that support the Church's mission today at the Diocesan Resource Centre on Tuesday 20th October 12noon-1pm. Info: <https://mn.catholic.org.au/event/called-to-know-more-how-is-the-church-organised/>

Bulletin Notices

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

**St. Brigid's Primary School
Recipe Book**

The St. Brigid's Primary School 'Spring Fair' Recipe Book is available to purchase from the School Office Monday-Friday 8.30am-3pm at a cost of \$40.



**A Retreat Morning for Modern Day Emmaus
Travellers with Dr Dan White**

All are welcome to attend the Retreat Morning with Dr Dan White on Friday 23rd October 2026 from 9.15am-1pm at St Stephen's Parish Hall Tea Gardens. Please bring a note pad, pen and a plate of food to share.

World Mission Sunday

October is celebrated across the Catholic Church as World Mission Month, culminating in World Mission Sunday on 18th October 2026. This year is particularly significant as it marks the 100th anniversary of World Mission Sunday, established by Pope Pius XI in 1926. The 2026 theme, chosen by Pope Leo XIV, is *"One in Christ, united in mission,"* calling us to walk together in faith, bringing hope, compassion and the Good News to communities both near and far. Donation envelopes will be available for collection from your Mass Centre this weekend.

Parish Secretary on Annual Leave

Our Parish Secretary, Kate Allen, is currently on Annual Leave and will return to the office on Tuesday 27th October.

Changes to Parish Office This Week

The Parish Office will be closed on Tuesday 20th, Thursday 22nd and Friday 23rd October. Our Financial Secretary, Phil Hickling, will be in the office on Wednesday 21st October.

Our Parish. Our Stories. Our Future.

An Invitation to our Parish Assembly Sunday 25th October

It has been many years since we last gathered for a Parish Assembly, and much has changed in our parish, our communities and the world around us. Our Parish Assembly will be held after the 9.30am Mass on Sunday 25th October at St. Brigid's Parish Hall. This Parish Assembly is an opportunity for parishioners from across our community to gather in faith, celebrate who we are, share our stories, name the challenges we face, and listen together for where the Holy Spirit may be leading us. Whether you have been part of the parish for many years, have joined us more recently, attend regularly or only occasionally, you are part of our story and you are warmly invited to participate. Through prayer, storytelling and conversation, we will listen to one another and explore our hopes and dreams for the future. What we hear will help shape our parish's mission, vision and pastoral priorities for the years ahead.

- 9.30am Mass at St Brigid's Church Raymond Terrace
- 10.30am Morning Tea & Conversation in the Parish Hall (please bring a plate to share)
- 11.00am Our Story: Storytelling in Small Groups
- 12.30pm Shared Lunch (please bring a plate to share)
- 1.15pm Looking to the Future: Hopes, Dreams & Challenges
- 2.45pm Where to From Here? What We Heard & What Comes Next
Your Voice Matters!

This is an opportunity to listen deeply to one another, strengthen the relationships that make us a community and discern together the kind of parish we are being called to become. Please register your attendance using the QR code on the notice board at your Mass Centre or visit:

https://forms.cloud.microsoft/pages/responsepage.aspx?id=x2JU50ZyS-U2DkemO6p1i_PfCQ4jWZAnWC3ylqUs5ZURVBVOFY2TVNNSzAyREI5UzhFQktLOE5NMI4u&route=shorturl

The Little Friars and Little Nuns of Jesus and Mary

Mission and Evangelisation in partnership with MacKillop Parish invite you to a Parish Mission with special participation from the Little Nuns and Little Friars of Jesus and Mary. The Little Friars and Little Nuns of Jesus and Mary are coming to the Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle for a ten-day mission of faith, prayer and renewal. Known for their distinctive habits, joyful spirit and dedicated commitment to Christ, their lives are centred on prayer, community, service and helping others discover the joy of faith. Their witness is both refreshing and challenging, raising important questions about purpose, happiness, and what truly matters. Come for one event or many. Bring your questions and an open heart. You never know where God might lead. From 2nd November to 12th November 2026 View the schedule here: <https://mn.catholic.org.au/little-friars-and-little-nuns-of-jesus-and-mary/>

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.

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY

Newcastle Office Phone Number: 49 676 277

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 Mallaubula.

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



OFFICE OF SAFEGUARDING

The Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle
Office of Safeguarding

Phone: 4979 1390

Address: 50 Crebert St, Mayfield

Email: childprotection@mn.catholic.org.au

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.

CATHOLIC 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).

ST. BRIGID'S, RAYMOND TERRACE

	Welcomer	Ministers of the Word	Extra-Ordinary Ministers of Communion	Presentation of Gifts
17/10/26	Mary Thorpe	Maureen Smith Brendon Mannyx	Tracey Edstein Vannessa Tasker	Mannyx Family
18/10/26	Margaret Pryer	Vinette Shrimpton Robert Woolley	Phil Hickling Vinette Shrimpton	Christina Cutting Dalene Myers
24/10/26	Mary Thorpe	Claire Mannyx Vannessa Tasker	Paul Edstein Clare Dawson	Rodney Trappel Pauline Trappel
25/10/26	Elenoa Cutmore	Marlene George St. Christopher's Medowie (Change due to Parish Assembly)	Astrid Hartcher Shane Giggins	TBA (Change due to Parish Assembly)

OUR LADY HELP OF CHRISTIANS, MALLABULA

	Ministers of the Word	Commentator	Presentation of Gifts
18/10/26	Jeremy Clark	Carmel Volker	Val Betwell & Carmel Volker
25/10/26	Carmel Volker	Greg Patteson	Jo Nederlof & Jeannete Solway

ST. CHRISTOPHER'S, MEDOWIE

	Open, Close & Lock	Welcomer	Ministers of the Word	Presentation of Gifts / Candle Bearers	Acolyte
17/10/26					
24/10/26					

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

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON: To you I call; for you will surely heed me, O God; turn your ear to me; hear my words. Guard me as the apple of your eye; in the shadow of your wings protect me.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: Give the Lord glory and honour.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: Alleluia, alleluia! Shine on the world like bright stars; you are offering it the word of life. Alleluia!

COMMUNION ANTIPHON: Behold, the eyes of the Lord are on those who fear him, who hope in his merciful love, to rescue their souls from death, to keep them alive in famine.

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

Companions on the Journey ~ *Hymn 188*

We Come to Your Feast

Eat This Bread ~ *Hymn 125*

Be Not Afraid ~ *Hymn 114*

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 6.00pm Mass at St. Christopher's Oratory Medowie.

Calling for Expressions of Interest – Councils and Advisory Boards

The Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle warmly invites you to once again journey with us in faith, open dialogue and discernment as we continue to establish and strengthen our new Councils and Advisory Boards. Following our initial Expressions of Interest process last year, we are now seeking to fill some vacancies on our Councils and Advisory Boards as we build on the strong foundation. This next phase is an opportunity to broaden participation and ensure our governance reflects the diversity and rich gifts of our diocesan community. Our renewed governance model honours both civil and Church law, and is grounded in the mission and teachings of the Church. The Councils and Advisory Boards that have formed play an important role in shaping the future of our Diocese, contributing to decisions that support faithful, sustainable and mission-driven outcomes. Already our Pastoral Council has been discerning our call to mission. We invite people from across the Diocese who feel called to serve to submit an expression of interest via the Diocesan website: <https://mn.catholic.org.au/governance-advisory-group-eoi/>. In particular, opportunities exist for those with backgrounds in Governance, Finance Banking and Insurance. These groups work in a synodal way marked by collaboration, respectful listening and thoughtful conversation. Join with us - this is a unique opportunity to share your gifts, deepen your engagement in the life of the Church and help shape the path ahead for our Diocese.

World Youth Day 2027

World Youth Day is an international gathering of young people (aged 16-35) held every three years with the Pope. The Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle is leading a pilgrimage in July 2027 to the next one in South Korea with an extended retreat in Japan following. Serious expressions of interest have now opened and can be logged on our webpage. We expect bookings to open in November 2026 with an \$800 deposit. Learn more - <https://mn.catholic.org.au/church/world-youth-day-2027/>

Mercy & Hope Talks & Testimony Friday 23rd and Saturday 24th October

Hosted by Kurri Kurri Church and featuring Paul Elarde & Tinah Deluca-Tohi. Join us for two powerful days of faith, healing, and hope.

Friday 23rd October 6:15pm to 9pm: Talk 1: Finding Meaning in Suffering: Life Crisis Spirituality. Sooner or later, life presents something to us that we simply can not cope with. This talk reveals how, using our faith, we can survive the great suffering of a life crisis... for the better! **Saturday 24th October 10 am to 4 pm:** Talk 2: Two Saints of Mercy: Pope St. John Paul II & St. Faustina. Few saints have had such an enormous impact on the Church in modern times. Find out why Pope St John Paul II saw the message of Divine Mercy as the special task of his Pontificate, and why, along with St Faustina, they are literally transforming people's lives! Talk 3: Why is this Message of Divine Mercy NEW? What could be new about God's Mercy? Well, Jesus tells us we have not comprehended His mercy. Hear what Jesus has said that reveals unimaginable gifts and mysteries of His Mercy! You won't want to miss this talk! Talk 4: Testimony: "Keeping the Faith through Hard Times" by Tinah Deluca-Tohi. In 2012, Tinah was told that her perfectly healthy fifteen-year-old son Emmanuel had an incurable brain disease and, for the next eighteen months, had to watch his slow decline. Her son Emmanuel inspired others as he leaned on his faith and trust in God to battle his illness. She has an amazing story to tell that will touch your heart and inspire your faith. Location: Kurri Kurri Parish Hall, 102 Barton Street, Kurri Kurri. This is a free event but please register to assist with catering.

<https://mn.catholic.org.au/event/kurri-kurri-church-presents-mercy-hope-talks-and-testimony-by-paul-elarde-tinah-deluca-tohi/>

READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY

FIRST READING: Exodus 22:20-26 ~ If you are harsh with the widow or the orphan, my anger will rage against you.

SECOND READING: 1 Thessalonians 1:5-10 ~ You turned away from idols to serve God and await his Son.

GOSPEL READING: Matthew 22:34-40 ~ You shall love the Lord your God, and your neighbour as yourself.