



City Pastoral REGION
CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF MAITLAND-NEWCASTLE



St Benedict's Inner Newcastle Parish: Sacred Heart Cathedral, Newcastle West; St Joseph's Church, The Junction; St Mary, Star of the Sea Church, Newcastle; Immaculate Heart of Mary Church, Tighes Hill.

Mayfield Parish: Christ the King, Mayfield West. **Stockton Parish:** St Peter-in-Chains, Stockton.

SUNDAY 2ND FEBRUARY 2025

PRESENTATION OF THE LORD

Our Clergy

Fr Greg Barker

Fr Anthony Coloma

Deacon Kevin Gadd

Regional Office—St Benedict's Centre

25 Farquhar Street, The Junction

PO Box 6, The Junction 2291

P: (02) 4979 1101

E: newcparish@mn.catholic.org.au

W: www.newcastlecatholic.org.au

W: www.sacredhearthamilton.org.au

After hours emergency phone: 0494 390 653

Our Staff

Margaret Cox (*Reception & Administration*)

Anne Warren (*Business Manager*)

Daloras Howes (*Administration*)

Elul Tecele (*Administration*)

Peter Davies (*Administration*)

Dr Anne Millard (*Music, Liturgy, Sacraments*)

Bereavement Team:

Margaret Cox, Gail Lovell, Christopher Gregory,
Margaret Beard, Margaret Newton, Anne Millard
(02) 4979 1252

Mercy Pastoral Team:

Sr Patricia Whitten rsm 0448463679

St Joseph's Pastoral Team:

Contact the Parish Office

Promoters of Safeguarding

Gail Lovell (02) 4979 1256

Anne Millard (02) 4979 1252



REQUIEM AETERNAM

The church community extends sympathy and love to the Sisters of St Joseph who have lost two of their Congregation these past weeks.

Sr Ruth Long: Funeral Mass will be celebrated at Lochinvar on Monday 3rd February at 11.30am

Sr Carmel Hanson: Funeral Mass will be celebrated in Sacred Heart Cathedral on Monday 10th February at 10.30am.

Rest in Peace.



Our Parishes incorporate suburbs located on the traditional country of the Awabakal and Worimi peoples. We acknowledge their cultural heritage, beliefs and continuing relationship with the land, pay respect to their Elders past and present, and commit ourselves to work together for reconciliation and justice.

FROM THE PARISH PRIEST

Dear Parish Family,

One of the strengths of this Catholic Christian community is our unity even in our diversity. We come from a wide range of backgrounds, family of origin, ethnic lineage, gifts and talents, abilities, and strengths. We are one body. Remember how St Paul refers to this diversity. We shouldn't try and be the same but celebrate our uniqueness as the physical body celebrates how it works.



I like too that when we are praying here in Newcastle, we are joining in prayer with the wider Christian community world-wide. It is moving to know that as we are starting a Mass, or the divine office even, someone elsewhere is finishing theirs, or in the middle or like us starting. We are linked in a continuous movement of being in the presence of God through prayer. Our churches and communities linked in this cycle of prayer. As you know we pray for the church, the community and for those in need. Our world is continually held in prayer.

There is a strength in our communion. We receive communion because we are in communion. Whilst our communities around the world may have different rituals and languages, we are united in our common belief. The catholic church has colour and movement dependent on culture and place of origin. However, in that colour we find unity in our belief in the Real Presence in the Eucharist. For Latin Rite Catholics and

those that share our Sundays from other Catholic Rites we add another strength of common practice and language, as they do in their churches. The signs, symbols and rituals unite us. We should be reluctant to do our own thing or let our own personal devotions take over our public prayer.

Our personal devotions are important. They aid our relationship with God, hopefully leading us to a deeper understanding of the mission entrusted to us as members of the church and as an individual before God. They should aid too our relationship with Christ and our understanding of what that means for our salvation and the salvation of the world. Don't forget the mission has a church not the church has a mission. I like too that whilst I may have personal devotions you may have different ones and that is ok. Mine no more important than yours. There are thousands of devotions and ways to pray. The minute I think my way is better than yours I suspect I have lost sight of what I am on about.

I feel a great deal of joy knowing that if our records went back to the Disciples themselves, we could trace in an unbroken line through baptism back to them. I know who baptised me, he knows who baptised him etc. Same with ordination and confirmation. It is a strength in our belonging. What we have is over two thousand years of faith, worship and sharing God's love in Christ. Intrinsically linked, sometimes dented but always unbroken.

Let's celebrate our being together as we pray for each other.

Greg

Parish Priest.

Have you thought?

The role of the observer

In today's gospel passage, it is the devout Simeon and the prophetess, Anna, who declare the greatness and far-reaching influence of the child that has been brought to the Temple. This is a common feature of the gospel accounts. It is not Jesus himself who proclaims his greatness but those who have observed him and recognised the revelation of God's presence amongst the people. It is a role that continues today. Those of us who believe and recognise the presence and influence of God in the world are challenged to proclaim it in both our actions and our words.

Prayer requests and items for the Bulletin need to be received at the Parish Office by 5pm on Wednesdays.

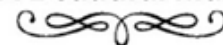
CHRISTIAN MCCALLUM

(Chris)

Late of Merewether

Aged 60 years

A Beautiful Man



Beloved husband of Jenny. Adored father of Thomas, Jonathan, and Maeve. Cherished son of Peter (dec'd) and Shirlee. Much loved brother, brother-in-law, uncle, riding buddy, colleague, and friend. Loved by all who were lucky enough to know him.

Jenny and family warmly invite you to join them in a celebration of Chris's life on Monday 3rd February 2025 at Sacred Heart Cathedral, Hamilton. Commencing at 3pm for Chris's favourite music, followed by 4pm for funeral service.

THE PARISH DIARY...(for the week ahead)

4th week in Ordinary Time Year 1

Monday 3 February

- 8:15am Mass @ The Cathedral
4:00pm Funeral Liturgy for Christian McCallum at The Cathedral

Tuesday 4 February

- 8:15am Mass @ The Cathedral
9:00am Mass @ Stockton (Anointing Mass)

Wednesday 5 February

St Agatha, virgin, martyr

- 8:15am Mass @ The Cathedral
9:00am Mass @ Mayfield
9:45am St Francis Xavier's College Opening Mass at The Cathedral
11am Funeral Mass for Natale Mignanelli at St Josephs, The Junction

Thursday 6 February

St Paul Miki and companions, martyrs

- 8:15am Mass @ The Cathedral
9:00am Mass @ Stockton
2:00am Mass @ Irwin Hall, Mayfield

Friday 7 February

- 10:15am Mass @ The Junction
11:00am Exposition, Adoration & Reconciliation @ The Cathedral (until 12pm)
12:05pm Mass @ The Cathedral

Saturday 8 February

- 9.15am Mass @ The Cathedral, followed by the Novena to Our Lady of Perpetual Help, followed by Reconciliation

4th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Saturday 8 February

- 5:30pm Mass @ The Cathedral
5:30pm Mass @ The Junction
5:30pm Mass @ Mayfield West

Sunday 9 February

- 7:30am Mass @ St Mary's
8:00am Mass @ Tighes Hill
9:00am Mass @ Stockton
9:30am Mass @ The Cathedral *
11:00am Mass @ The Junction (Italian)
11:30am Mass @ The Cathedral (Polish)
5:00pm Mass @ The Cathedral
6:00pm Vietnamese Mass @ Mayfield West
(No Mass 9 Feb, next Mass 16 Feb)

* Livestreamed on the Cathedral's YouTube channel—
www.youtube.com/c/SacredHeartCathedralHamilton and on the Diocesan website.

PRAYER REQUESTS



RECENTLY DECEASED:

Chris McCallum, Sr Carmel Hanson rsj,
Sr Ruth Long rsj, Margaret Ayres,
Natale Mignanelli

ANNIVERSARIES:

Ellen Griffiths, Jean Perkins, Maurice Tobin, Peter Cook, Connie Jennings, Tony O'Brien

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK: Patricia Gillett, Carlo Rossi, John Woodward, Neil Thomas, Louise Hall, Tui Innes, Felicity Dawson, Sr Ann Daley rsj, Patrick Theodore, Jean Luc

Names may be placed in "Prayer Requests" by contacting the Parish Office. Please refer to the Policy Document on the Parish

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS:



Isaiah 6:1-8
1 Corinthians 15:1-11
Luke 5:1-11

OUR BELOVED DEAD

We remember those in our Columbaria whose anniversaries occur in February.

At Sacred Heart Cathedral:

| | |
|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| Robert Bartholomew | Xuyen An Le |
| Jean Rosario Belcher | Patricia (Trish) Leishman |
| Gwenneth Bennett | Alan James Long |
| Anthony Bookallil | Fiore (Frank) Monaco |
| Beryl Jean Clarke | Stan O'Brien |
| Marie Forrest | Kathleen O'Neill |
| Joanne Franks | Roger Saunders |
| Giuseppe Grach | Robert Smith |
| Edna Jean Hancock | Gregory Smith |
| Peter William Heggart | Toni Van Schyndel |
| Michael Henessy | William (Bill) Warren |
| Ronald Joseph Jarrett | Clare Alice Withers |
| Czeslaw (Cec) Kizeweter | Joan Woodcock |

At St Joseph's:

| | |
|----------------|-----------------|
| Nicholas Evans | Gerald Meighan |
| Robyn Field | Bob Smyth |
| Marie James | Kath Walsh |
| Marie Maddrell | Alan Watt |
| William McNeil | Johanna Schmuck |
| Margaret McVie | Rodney Wright |

Eternal rest grant unto them and may perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace, Amen.

IMPORTANT - REGISTER UPDATE – PARISH KEYS & ALARM CODES

We are currently updating our parish key and alarm code registers, in line with our obligations in relation to safeguarding and security measures. Maintaining accurate records is important – not just for legal reasons, but also in the event of any changes to locks or alarm keypads.



If you have a key and/or an alarm code for a parish building, please contact Anne Warren at the parish office. Either:
via email, anne.warren@mn.catholic.org.au,
or by phone on 4979 1254. For keys, Anne will need to record the code written on the key.

PRAYER / DISCUSSION GROUP

The Junction Prayer/Discussion Group will begin 2025 on Thursday 6 February at 9.30am in the Parish Meeting Room, 25 Farquhar St, The Junction.



The Lenten Group, which will use the Wollongong Diocese Metanoia Lenten Program, will start on 6 March in the Junction meeting room. It will continue each Thursday in Lent. Anyone interested in being part of the group can ring Janet on 0435 518 671.

CHRISTIAN MEDITATION AT TIGHERS HILL

This is non-denominational - everyone welcome.

WHEN: Monday afternoon 3.30 for 3.45 start.

WHERE: Immaculate Heart of Mary Church, 16 Tighes Tce, Tighes Hill.

COMMUNITY KITCHENS

The Community Kitchens run by CatholicCare can be accessed by anyone who needs a warm meal or support. Five locations operate across the Hunter and Mid-North Coast, including:

Hamilton South: Every Wednesday, 12pm to 1pm at 29 Fowler Street, Hamilton South

Newcastle: Every Saturday, 5.30pm to 6.30pm (6.30pm to 7.30pm during Daylight Savings) at Civic Park, King Street, Newcastle

Toronto: Every Thursday, 5pm to 6.30pm at 97 The Boulevard, Toronto



GAZA CRISIS APPEAL

A ceasefire means more aid can assist people in Gaza, but the need is immense and the recovery long.

Gaza's people cannot recover alone. They need the support of the global community to survive and rebuild.

You can make a donation online at www.caritas.org.au/gaza or phone 1800 024 413



WEDNESDAY ROSARY

NO ROSARY ON WEDNESDAY 5TH FEBRUARY due to the St Francis Xavier School Mass at 9.45am in SHC



BOOK CLUB

Book Club meets Sunday, 2nd February to discuss *At the Foot of the Cherry Tree* by Alli Parker. If you would like to participate in book club meetings, please email: newcparish@mn.catholic.org.au



LIVING WATERS MEDITATION CENTRE

A Christian Meditation Centre at 34 Kenrick Street, The Junction, which offers meditation sessions on Wednesdays at 7.30am and Fridays at 11.00am. After meditation on Fridays, Lectio Divina, a personal interaction with Sacred Scripture, is offered. For more information: Carmel Moore rsj 0412122297.



VIEW, CHEW, CHAT, AND LECTIO

View, Chew, and Chat meets February 5th for Lectio. To participate, please email the parish office.

THE RETURN OF EPIC

EPIC (Everything Possible in Christ) Youth Group meets on the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of the month at 6pm in the Cathedral precinct. We resume on 5th Feb.

Anyone aged between 20 and 40 is cordially invited to join the group.

Email Elul.tecle@mn.catholic.org.au to find out more.



NEW OPPORTUNITIES FOR VOLUNTEERS

*Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit:
And there are varieties of service, but the same Lord:
And there are varieties of activities, but the same God
who activates all of them in everyone. (1 Cor 12:4)*

We have two exciting new opportunities for volunteers in the region.

1. Baptism Team
2. Sacramental Team

BAPTISM PREPARATION: The role of this team is to assist parents of infants to be baptised to understand their parental responsibilities and the liturgy of baptism. Team members will instruct parents on the meaning and significance of the Sacrament of Baptism and how important it is for parents to pass on the gift of faith to their children.

We anticipate meetings will take place monthly, likely on a Tuesday evening. The meeting will cover the format of the ceremony. The team members will then be encouraged to attend the baptismal ceremony.

SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION: The role of this team is working with children and their parents to prepare for first reconciliation, confirmation and first communion. Over the past years (beginning during COVID), the sacramental program has been fully online. This year we are returning to small group meetings to prepare the children for the sacraments. The program is fully documented and easy to follow.

To express interest in either or both of these teams, please use the following link or QR code:

<https://forms.office.com/r/k08AfwMC3E>



“LIGHT SOURCE”

Multi-disciplinary artists Ken O'Regan, Chris Brown and Kris Smith, present “Light Source”, a meditation on the passage of deep time and the intersection of natural and built environments. Using light as their primary medium, these artists speak to the possibility of our speculative futures through experimental interpretations.

The exhibition is on at Watt Space Gallery, cnr King and Auckland Sts, from 15th Jan - 8th March. It will include some photography taken from inside St Mary's through stained glass windows.

Opening hours: Wed to Fri: 11am - 5pm, Sat: 12 - 4pm or by appointment.

SISTERS OF FAITH DINNER

Join our annual dinner on **Thursday February 20**: an enjoyable and respectful evening of dialogue among women from diverse backgrounds and faiths, fostering learning, sharing, and unity. We are pleased to welcome Rev. Faaimata Havea Hiliau – Moderator of the Uniting Church Synod of NSW and ACT as this year's guest speaker. The Moderator is elected to give prophetic and pastoral leadership to the people and congregations of the Synod and called to remind the church of our hope in Jesus Christ. Tickets for the dinner are limited to 100 women and can be purchased at a heavily subsidised price of \$35 from this link -

<https://sisters-faith-2025.eventbrite.com.au>

If you have any questions, please email mission@mn.catholic.org.au.



CHARISMATIC PRAYER MEETING

The Immaculate Conception of Mary Charismatic Prayer Group will resume on Monday, February 3.

We are excited to invite you to experience charismatic prayer and worship and be inspired by our guest presenter, James Camden, Director of Mission and Evangelisation. All are welcome.



Date: Monday, February 3

Time: 7.30pm-9.00pm

Location: Diocesan Resource Centre

12 Tudor St. Newcastle West

(Cnr of Tudor and Parry St - next to the Sacred Heart Cathedral)

For more information contact Pam Tierney on 0447 498 298

SYMBOLON: THE CATHOLIC FAITH EXPLAINED

Symbolon is a faith formation series presented by Dr. Edward Sri and a team of theologians from the Augustine Institute. It presents the various facets of the Church's teachings that have been in existence for over 2000 years. You are invited to come along to this free event which will run for 10 weeks starting on Wednesday, 5 February 2025 till Wednesday, 9 April 2025 from 6:30pm to 8:30pm, in the Function Room at St Mary of the Cross Parish Hub, Charlestown. Register at the door. Light refreshments will be served. Feel free to invite anyone you might know who may also be interested in learning more about the Catholic Faith. For more information, please contact Yvonne Rego on 0450 323 206

DIOCESAN RESOURCE CENTRE

Opening Hours: Mondays and Fridays, 10am to 5pm. Open 1st & 3rd Saturday of each month, 10am to 2pm. cnr Tudor and Parry Sts, Newcastle West.



All resources are available to borrow; and are searchable on the library catalogue, which can be accessed through this link:

<https://tinyurl.com/DOMNLibrary>

OR use the QR code to the right.



Formation Fridays – First Friday of the month, 1pm – 2pm: A chance to reflect and discuss seasons, moments and mysteries of the church and our faith.

Registration: <https://tinyurl.com/FormationFriday>

or contact Rose McAllister at

rose.mcallister@mn.catholic.org.au.

METANOIA - LENTEN PROGRAM 2025

The Diocese of Wollongong have released their annual Lenten programme entitled “Metanoia.”

This Lent, embark on a journey of *metanoia*—a transformative change of heart inspired by the Gospels. Let this beautifully designed, 76-page, full-colour companion guide your spiritual renewal through daily reflections, Sunday readings and reflections, spiritual direction, prayers, and group discussion questions.

For further information or to place orders use this link:

<https://tinyurl.com/LentenProgram>



SUPPORT YOUR PARISH VIA THE APP

Are you using the App? Not only can you get the daily readings on your phone, you can also support the parish with an easy way to donate. You can download the app for free from the Apple App Store and Google Play Store. Just search for ‘Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle’ and click install on your mobile or tablet!

BEQUESTS

To help our Catholic Pastoral Region continue its mission of proclaiming the Good News, you might consider including us in your Will. You just need to specify which parish(es) you would like to help.

THE CHUCKLE

A teacher told me not to worry about spelling because in the future there will be autocorrect, for which I am eternally grapefruit.



LATEST NEWS FROM OUR SAFEGUARDING PROMOTERS

The Promoters of Safeguarding continue to endorse a culture of safeguarding within the Parish. To this end, your attention is drawn to **preparing each child for starting or resuming school**. Following tips 1-4, two weeks ago, here are tips 5-10.

5. Practise, practise, practise reading. Set up a ‘book nook’ at home to develop a reading routine for your child, or for you and your child.

6. Read books about starting school. Stories with characters your child can relate to — especially those with characters attending their first day of kindergarten.

7. Include a note/drawing with your child's lunch box. This special touch to let your child know you're thinking about them.

8. Encourage your child to pursue a passion project this year. Ask what topic they really want to learn about in the school year ahead. Your child can research the topic to gain knowledge which can be shared during class.

9. Help your child develop independence skills. At home, focus on self-help skills and responsibility. Set up ‘school day’ check list and place it on your fridge.

10. Make school run drop off quick and painless. Find out the school ‘drop-off’ policy including car drop off areas and times.

TAIZE SERVICE

Sunday 2nd February Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic Church Tighes Hill 5pm – 6pm *followed by a shared supper*.

You can read about it in the Aurora article “A spirit of joy, simplicity and reconciliation” available in the Diocesan website:

<http://mnnews.today>



FOOD BASKETS FOR THE NEEDY

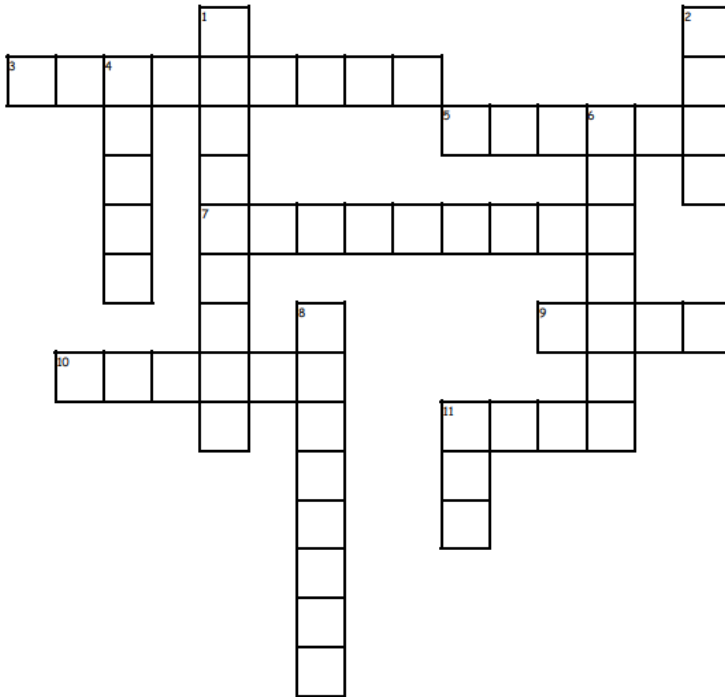


Items of dry goods or tin food can be placed in the blue bins located at our churches. St Vincent de Paul members will pick up for distribution to the needy who are very grateful to receive the items. When donating please check expiry dates. We request that you do not donate peanut butter. Any of the following non-perishable items are welcome: UHT milk, cereal, spreads, tinned goods (veggies, fruit, soup, fish, meat), pasta, rice, pasta sauces, tea, coffee, biscuits, custard, jelly, toothpaste, toothbrushes, soap, shampoo, conditioner, deodorant. Thank you. Questions to Sr Carol Woodland rsj (mob) 0423 700 523 or 4967 2998.

CROSSWORD

I will send my messenger

Mal 3:1-2b
Ps 24:7-10, R. v.10b
Lk 2:22-32



Across

- 3: the Lord said, 'I will send my _____ to prepare the way for me'
5: a Jewish building of worship
7: the Law of the Lord says the parents of the first-born son must offer a _____
9: Mary and Joseph took Jesus to the temple in Jerusalem when he was a _____
10: this man was pleased to see baby Jesus at the temple
11: a white bird of peace

Down

- 1: Mary and Joseph took baby Jesus to the temple in this city
2: you use these to see
4: the opposite of sit
6: to get ready
8: the Lord says a messenger will _____ his promise
11: the sun shines in the sky during the ____

JUNIOR WORDSEARCH

Lord, I am your servant

Lk 2:22-32

K J S M X E T W V P M H M T F
W C Z W L S T N E Y E S K T M
R X P M O I V M Z Y W V M U A
O E E T C M E U W G C X M Q R
I W A F H E X P X W J R S Z Y
L C C W R O J S E D L Y P T Z
Y R E L I N H N Q F Q U G J Z
W F K W S I R W X A F B Q Y S
U R D P T D O V E K Z A M R C
R L Y Z L S W K D I C B R E N
W H V H R O J M H A P Y R I A
A J E R U S A L E M A R M S E
K H J G H Y J S P I R I T J W
Z H H N S E R V A N T S M J W
S A C R I F I C E B F Z T O C

Try to find these words:

arms
baby
Christ
dove
eyes
Jerusalem
Mary
peace
sacrifice
servant
Simeon
Spirit

TODAY'S LITURGY

Entrance Antiphon

Your merciful love, O God, we have received in the midst of your temple. Your praise, O God, like your name, reaches the ends of the earth; your right hand is filled with saving justice.

First Reading Malachi 3:1-4

The Lord whom you seek will come to his temple.



Responsorial Psalm Ps 23:7-10. R. v.10

(R.) Who is this king of glory? It is the Lord!

1. O gates, lift up your heads;
grow higher, ancient doors.
Let him enter, the king of glory! (R.)
2. Who is the king of glory?
The Lord, the mighty, the valiant,
the Lord, the valiant in war. (R.)
3. O gates, lift high your heads;
grow higher, ancient doors.
Let him enter, the king of glory! (R.)
4. Who is he, the king of glory?
He, the Lord of armies,
he is the king of glory. (R.)

Second Reading Hebrews 2:14-18

He had to be made like us all things.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

This is the light of revelation to the nations,
and the glory of your people Israel.
Alleluia!

Gospel Luke 2:22-40

My eyes have seen your saving power.

Memorial Acclamation:

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



Communion Antiphon

My eyes have seen your salvation,
which you prepared in the sight of all the peoples.

OUR CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

St Joseph's Primary School

Karen McGinlay (*Principal*)

Union Street, The Junction NSW 2291

P:(02) 4961 2827

W:www.merewether.catholic.edu.au

Holy Family Primary School

Ann Jackson (*Principal*)

Pell Street, Merewether NSW 2291

P:(02) 4963 3009

W:www.merewetherbeach.catholic.edu.au

St Columban's Primary School

Penny Banister (*Principal*)

Church Street, Mayfield NSW 2304

P:(02) 4968 3315

W:www.mayfieldsc.catholic.edu.au

St Peter's Primary School

Michael Punch (*Principal*)

Dunbar St, Stockton NSW 2295

P:(02) 4928 1861

W:www.stockton.catholic.edu.au

St Francis Xavier's College

Greg Ptolemy (*Principal*)

Parkway Avenue, Hamilton NSW 2303

P:(02) 4961 2863

W:www.hamilton.catholic.edu.au

San Clemente High School

Emma South (*Principal*)

78 Havelock St, Mayfield NSW 2304

P:(02) 4014 7300

W:www.mayfieldsanc.catholic.edu.au

St Dominic's Catholic College

Rachel Jones (*Principal*)

76 Havelock St, Mayfield NSW 2304

P:(02) 4968 1295

W:www.mayfieldsd.catholic.edu.au

SAFEGUARDING

The Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle has an abiding commitment to promote the safety, welfare and wellbeing of children and vulnerable adults. Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility. If you have any concerns for a child or vulnerable adult please contact the Office of Safeguarding: P 4979 1390, or email childprotection@mn.catholic.org.au or

www.officeofsafeguarding.org.au