

Saint Michael's Catholic Parish



12 Sproule Street - Nelson Bay 2315

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Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle

Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A 5 July 2026

We acknowledge the Worimi people – the traditional custodians of this land.
I will praise your name for ever, my king and my God.

WEEKEND MASS TIMES

Reconciliation:

Saturday

4.00pm - 4.45 pm

Saturday Vigil: 5:00 pm

Sunday Mass: 8.30 am

Exposition and

Adoration

One Hour before Mass

WEEKDAY MASS

Tuesday 5.00 pm

Wednesday 9.15 am

Thursday 5.00 pm

Friday 9.15 am

NURSING HOME MASSES

Every First Thursday

10.00am Regis Aged Care
Corlette.

Every Second Wednesday
10.30 am Uniting.

Muller Street
Salamander Bay

Every Third Thursday

10.00am Harbourside
Shoal Bay.

PARISH CONTACTS

PARISH PRIEST:

Fr. Anthony Nguyen

Phone: 0420 401 025

PARISH DEACON:

Dcn Gerard McCarthy

PARISH SECRETARY:

Mrs Dianne Maricic

Parish Office Hours

9.30 am to 3.00 pm

Wednesday to Friday

Phone: 0401 233 650

ST MICHAEL'S PRIMARY

SCHOOL PRINCIPAL:

Ms Helen Bourne

Office: 4981 1111

COMMUNITY SAFETY AT OUR MASSES

Please be assured that we are doing all we can to ensure our gatherings are as safe as possible:

- Please do not enter the church or other parish buildings if you are unwell. This includes meetings/gatherings.
- No density limits apply in Places of Worship but please allow space between people where possible.
- Please continue to hand sanitise.

HOLY COMMUNION

The Communion host can be received in the hand, and on the tongue with care. Since the latter is deemed high risk, please proceed to the Priest or Deacon only and at the end of the line.

RECONCILIATION WEEK

We, St Michael's Laudato Si Team, invite you to join with us to visit the Murrook Centre in Williamstown for lunch on the 10th of July.

- Leaving Nelson Bay at 10.20
- Please register your interest
- Let us know if you need a lift. (Sr. Cath)

SRE REFLECTION DAY

With Bishop Michael on 17 July will need to be rescheduled to a later date – please remove any reference to this in bulletins (we are in the process of contacting those who have registered to attend to advise them as such).

MEDITATION



Christian meditation is the process in which we take time to become aware of our infinite potential in the context of the Christ event. Christian meditation is on every Friday at 10.00 am in the multi-purpose room at the back of the Church. Everyone is welcome to attend.

"Meditation is about a deep conversion of heart".

ST MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL PRAYER

Saint Michael the
Archangel,
defend us in battle.

Be our protection against
the wickedness and
snares of the devil;
May God rebuke him,
we humbly pray;
And do thou,
O Prince of the
Heavenly Host,
by the power of God,
cast into hell Satan
and all evil spirits
who roam the world
seeking the ruin of souls.

Amen.

ST MICHAEL'S CATHOLIC CHURCH - NELSON BAY
PROMOTES SAFEGUARDING, WHICH INVOLVES THE IMPLEMENTATION OF
PROACTIVE, COMMON SENSE AND PRACTICAL IDEAS THAT ENSURE THE SAFETY OF
CHILDREN AND VULNERABLE ADULTS IN OUR COMMUNITY.
SAFEGUARDING PROMOTION: FOR ALL SAFEGUARDING CONCERNS WITHIN THE
PARISH, PLEASE CONTACT: FR. ANTHONY, DEACON GERARD AND
DIANNE MARICIC.

NAIDOC WEEK 2026

Civic Flag Raising Ceremony & Community Festival Monday 6 July 2026, 8:45am, Civic Park, Newcastle Join us for the NAIDOC Week Flag Raising Ceremony as we celebrate this year's theme, "50 Years of Deadly" - marking five decades of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander excellence, strength, culture, and leadership. Following the ceremony, a community procession will make its way to Foreshore Park for the Awabakal Newcastle NAIDOC Community Festival. The Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle is proud to support this important event and invites all to come together to celebrate, listen, learn, and walk alongside First Nations peoples in the spirit of reconciliation. Show your support! Register here: <https://tinyurl.com/Naidoc2026CivicPark>

CALLED TO KNOW MORE: MINISTRY TO SEAFARERS

Thursday 9 July from 11.15am-1.30pm.

FINAL SEATS AVAILABLE! Join us for the next Called to Know More gathering as Port Chaplain Mark Spencer shares stories of the lives of seafarers and the Church's ministry among them ahead of Sea Sunday on 12 July. More than 90% of the goods we rely on arrive by sea, carried by people who often spend months away from home facing isolation and challenging conditions. Enjoy a guided bus tour of Port Waratah, the Port of Newcastle, and the Stella Maris Centre at Wickham. Seats are limited, so bookings are essential: <https://tinyurl.com/CDMNStellaMaris>

STELLA MARIS SEAFARERS

Bank details for monetary donations are still being advertised with the incorrect details originally provided to us - If you are advertising, the correct bank details should be:

BSB: 062 784

Account Number: 1000 12583

Account Name: The Apostleship of the Sea

ALIVE YOUNG ADULT RETREAT 2026

Friday 17 July - Sunday 19 July, Camp Elim Forster. The Young Adult Retreat returns this year, inviting young adults aged 18-35 to explore what it means To Be Human and fully alive in this life and for eternity. This retreat offers a unique opportunity to deepen your faith, build lasting friendships, and connect with other young adults from across the Diocese.

Featuring expert speakers from around NSW and Australia, a dynamic and engaging program, praise and worship, and the sacraments, this promises to be a transformative weekend.

Register: <https://ALIVEYA26.eventbrite.com.au>

NEXT SUNDAY

15th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A

First Reading

Isaiah 55:10-11

Responsorial Psalm

The seed that falls on good ground will yield a fruitful harvest.

Second Reading

Romans 8:18-23

Gospel

Matthew 13:1-23

PRAYERS PLEASE

In your mercy, please pray for those who have died recently: Maria De Stefano and those whose anniversaries occur around this time: Michael McQuade, Eulogia Mardo, Mladen Beretin and for the sick in our parish: Stephen Ogilvie, Peter Collins, Ron Finch, Damien Brinley, Robyn Harris, Lorraine McCourt, Justin Fox, Joe Garreffa, Brenda and Brian Tucker, Sarlic Trumbli, Clemente Quinajon, David Berkeley, Anna Tan, Johny and Alexander Vella and David Campbell.

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.

Names on the Sick List will be removed after 4 weeks unless otherwise advised.

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RECONCILIATION WEEK

WE, ST MICHAEL'S LAUDATO SI TEAM

INVITE YOU TO JOIN WITH US TO
VISIT THE MURROOK CENTRE IN
WILLIAMTOWN FOR LUNCH ON THE
10TH OF JULY

- Leaving Nelson Bay at 10.20
- Please register your interest
- Let us know if you need a lift.(SR.Cath)



VINEYARDS CATHOLIC PARISHES PRESENTS

FAITH STORIES

of our newest Saints, Blessed Mother and more...

WITH PAUL & JULIANA ELARDE

10 & 11 JULY 2026

KURRI PARISH HALL,
102 BARTON STREET,
KURRI KURRI

FRI: 6:15PM - 9PM

SAT: 10AM - 4PM

10
JULY

TALK 1: Our Newest Saints! Part 1 – St. Pier Giorgio Frassati

It may seem unusual to think of a saint as practical joker, who loved skiing, mountain climbing, the theatre, music and the arts. But this is the story of the young Italian, Pier Giorgio, whose body was found to be incorrupt after 56 years in the grave!

11
JULY

TALK 2: Our Newest Saints! Part 2 – St. Carlo Acutis

We usually don't connect saints with computer programmers – but Carlo Acutis is known as "God's Influencer". This English-born Italian achieved a lot in his short life. His love for the Holy Eucharist inspired him to create a website dedicated to Eucharistic miracles, making him the first millennial saint.

11
JULY

TALK 3: Why Mary Matters

Some mistaking think Catholics worship Mary, but Mary is our spiritual Mother, given to us by Jesus at the Cross. This talk explains why the Catholic Church holds such a special love for Mary, by examining Scripture, Sacred Tradition and Marian apparitions.

11
JULY

TESTIMONY by Juliana: "I walked out of my wheelchair in Lourdes."

Juliana had been confined to a wheelchair for eight and a half years. She lived in constant pain. After seeing over fifty specialist doctors, they told her that she needed to prepare herself that her leg would be amputated. Her amazing story is one of spiritual conversion and physical healing.



FREE EVENT

SCAN HERE
TO REGISTER



MORE INFO PROVIDED
ON REGISTRATION FORM.
CONTACT YVONNE -
0450323206

PLEASE REGISTER YOUR RSVP FOR CATERING PURPOSES.



Alive
YOUTH
CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF MAITLAND-NEWCASTLE

YOUNG ADULT RETREAT:
TO BE HUMAN

OPEN TO 18-35 YEAR OLDS

17-19 JULY 2026

CAMP ELIM,
FORSTER





World Day
for Grandparents
and the Elderly
2026



6th World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly

I will never forget you (Is 49:15)

Dear brothers and sisters,

Through the prophet Isaiah, the Lord promises that he will never forget any of us. He assures us that he has engraved our faces on the palms of his hands (cf. Is 49:16) and that his love is greater than a mother's love for her child (cf. Is 49:15). The prophet gives us a glimpse of an intimate and intense dialogue in which God addresses, in familiar terms, each person individually and the people as a whole. Even today, we can read these words as referring to each of us, and everyone can hear that "I will never forget you" spoken directly to them.

These are words that fill us with comfort and hope. They are the answer to an agonizing feeling that troubles the heart: "The Lord has forsaken me; my Lord has forgotten me" (Is 49:14). How often in Sacred Scripture, especially in the Psalms, does prayer spring from the despair of those who feel that their lives are of no interest to anyone and are being neglected! The painful feeling of being forgotten is, unfortunately, shared by many people, and among them are quite a few elderly people.

God's love, which forgets no one, offers itself as an act of justice and a response to the anonymity in which human life all too often ends up lost. The lives of many elderly people, in particular, seem to be covered by a veil that blurs the features of their faces and shrouds them in oblivion. This is what happens in homes where loneliness reigns and also in those care facilities where each person's uniqueness risks being reduced to a bed number or an illness.

The celebration of the World Day of Grandparents and the Elderly is an opportunity to rediscover that the Church is called to be a mother to all and that at any age it is always possible to recognize ourselves as sons and daughters of God. May this day, therefore, be an inspiration for everyone, especially the young, to revive the beautiful custom of visiting their grandparents, the elderly members of the family and even those who have no one to visit them. Bring them, through this



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World Day
for Grandparents
and the Elderly
2026



message and your presence, the closeness and affection of the Pope. Ensure that the words of the prophet, “But I will never forget you,” take the form of a tender and affectionate encounter. “In an era that favors speed and fragmentation, the human person still yearns to receive care and recognition from attentive minds, kind words and hands capable of tenderness. The digital culture multiplies connections and offers new opportunities for interaction; yet, the human heart retains an irrevocable need for genuine closeness” (Encyclical Letter, [Magnifica Humanitas](#), 239).

The Church understands the suffering of her elderly members; she knows full well that they are all too often viewed through the lens of stereotypes and considered a burden; she is aware that a profit-driven economy weakens family ties; she knows that many elderly people are left behind by children who are forced to migrate or, in some cases, to fight in wars. For each of these reasons, she joyfully proclaims the Lord’s promise: “But I will never forget you!”

It is a joy, at any age, but especially when we are no longer young, to discover, as [John Paul I](#) said, that we are the recipients “of undying love on the part of God. We know: he has always his eyes open on us, even when it seems to be dark. He is our father; even more he is our mother” ([Angelus](#), 10 September 1978). Even if it does not come naturally to think this way, the truth is that even in old age we do not cease to be sons and daughters; therefore, the invitation to return to the arms of God — whose love is both paternal and maternal — remains worthwhile at any age.

For many, the discovery of God’s tenderness takes place over the course of their lives, sometimes even in its final stages. Indeed, unlike in the past, it is increasingly common to reach old age without having had a genuine experience of faith. In such cases, old age — beginning with the questions that arise with greater urgency during this season of life — can become the right time to begin or resume a spiritual life. On this new journey, one can recognize that God, as Saint Augustine says, “is a mother because he cherishes, because he nourishes, because he nurses, because he protects” (*Commentary on Psalm 27*, II, 18). It is an awareness that helps us not to feel ashamed of the fragility that emerges and also to understand that we are always in need of one another and in need of attention and care. To God, who draws near to us and whom we learn to recognize in his tenderness, we can now



World Day
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2026



turn with filial trust in prayer. It is never too late to begin turning to him. It can be a great gift for everyone.

Dear elderly men and women, [Pope Francis](#) spoke of you as a “new people” ([Catechesis](#), 23 February 2022), since the number of older adults has never been so large in human history. It is, therefore, more important than ever to reflect with you, this “new people,” on what our vocation might be when fragility — the human person’s companion from birth — seems to take over. I would like to say to you: do not be afraid of fragility! It is precisely this weakness that holds within itself a new potential that also illuminates the other stages of life. Indeed, when “we acknowledge our fragility, our hearts become open to supporting one another and to invoking the One who can grant what no human power can ensure: the profound reconciliation of hearts and, with it, true peace” ([Meeting with the Algerian community](#), Basilica of Our Lady of Africa, Algiers, 13 April 2026).

This is how we can live out our old age as Christians: “fragile” yet at the same time “called.” A man and a woman can, in fact, be born anew in old age (cf. *Jn* 3:4-6) and exclaim, with the prophet: “In returning and rest you shall be saved; in quietness and in trust shall be your strength” (*Is* 30:15). This strength can become an invitation not to resort to the ways of arrogance and power to ensure human coexistence, but to the ways of reconciliation and true peace. In this time, so harshly marked by the violence of war and social unrest, many wonder what the world in which their grandchildren will grow up will be like. I urge you, dear friends, to join me in praying earnestly that peace may soon come to the whole world.

Dear elderly brothers and sisters, I thank you for supporting me every day with your prayers, especially when you recite the Holy Rosary. I return this gratitude from the bottom of my heart and leave you with this prayer: may the Lord always renew us in faith, hope and love — He who never forgets us!

From the Vatican, 15 June 2026

LEO PP. XIV

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