Saint Michael's Catholic Parish

12 Sproule Street - Nelson Bay 2315
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Email: stmichaelsnb@mn.catholic.org.au
www.nelsonbaycatholicchurch.com
Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle

Thirty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A
8 November 2026

We acknowledge the Worimi people – the traditional custodians of this land.

My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord 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	NO MASS
Wednesday	NO MASS
Thursday	NO MASS
Friday	NO MASS

NURSING HOME MASSES

Every First Thursday
10.00am Regis Aged Care Corlette.

Every Second Wednesday
10.30 am Uniting.
Muller Street
Salamander Bay

Every Fourth Thursday
10.30am 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

The following information is to assist parishioners and visitors:
Face masks are available at the church entrance.
Hand sanitiser is available at the church entrance.
Holy Water is available and changed regularly.
Please take your bulletin home with you after Mass.

There are two collection plates during Mass. Thank you for your continued support. The following option is available:

The First Collection supports Diocesan Clergy.
The Second Collection supports our Parish.

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.

GLUTEN FREE HOSTS ARE AVAILABLE

Those requiring gluten-free hosts should approach Deacon Gerard or Fr. Anthony after the regular Communion line has concluded to receive them directly. Consecrated gluten-free hosts will be kept in the tabernacle.

NOVEMBER MASS OFFERINGS

During November, we are encouraged to pray for those who have gone before us - our family, friends, and especially those who have no one to pray for them. Masses throughout the month will be offered for all those named on our special November Mass Envelopes. Please write the names of your loved ones clearly on an envelope and place it in either collection basket during Mass. November Mass Offering Envelopes is available at the entrance of the church.

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.

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.

NOTE: NO MASS TUESDAY 10.11; WEDNESDAY 11.11; THURSDAY 12.11 AND FRIDAY 13.11

PARISH ASSEMBLY THANK YOU TO ALL

On behalf of the Parish, I would like to thank all the participants of our Parish Assembly. Grateful to Dianne Maricic and Anita Kero and all those who helped with morning tea. Special Thanks to Fr Matthew Muller, Brendan Upcroft and Megan Grainger for all the assistance rendered. Many thanks to Brendon Mannyx for co-ordinating and facilitating the Parish Assembly 2026. May God Bless us all.

MISSION TO SEAFRARERS AND STELLA MARIS MASS

The next Mass to be celebrated is at 5:30pm on Thursday 26th November 2026 at the Seafarers Chapel at 96 Hannel Street Wickham. All are welcome.

JOIN MISSION AND EVANGELISATION ON THE FRONT LINE

Make a difference in where it is needed most; we are seeking a part-time Stella Maris Port Chaplain to provide pastoral care, support and hospitality to seafarers visiting the Port of Newcastle. If you are passionate about supporting others, this might be the role for you. Applications close Monday 16 November, with interviews scheduled later that week. Learn more about the role here: https://cdmn.elmotalent.com.au/careers/dio/job/view/6859 or email: James.camden@mn.catholic.org.au

GOD'S WORD REFLECTION 2027 – NOW AVAILABLE PIETY STORE

God's Word Reflection books are now available at Piety Store **$20.00 per book.** The books contain the Bible readings set down for each day of the liturgical year with reflections by eminent spiritual writers. Designed to help you keep the word of God close to your heart in daily life. A life-changing companion to nourish you, help make God's Word the foundation of your life, and empower you to pray, to live and to share your faith with others.

AVALABLE FOR PURCHASE AND PAY AT THE PIETY STORE

2027 COLUMBAN ART CALENDAR $10.00 EACH
CHRISTMAS CARDS – A PACK OF EIGHT (8) CARDS ARE $5.00 PER PACK

PARISH SAFEGUARDING INFORMATION

Report any safeguarding concerns to the office of safeguarding by calling Phone 4979-1390 or Email: childprotection@mn.catholic.org.au or via our website - officeofsafeguarding.org.au

NEXT SUNDAY

33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A

First Reading
Proverbs 31:10-13. 19-20. 30-31

Responsorial Psalm
Happy are those who fear the Lord.

Second Reading
1 Thessalonians 5:1-6

Gospel
Matthew 25:14-30

PRAYERS PLEASE

In your mercy, please pray for those who have died recently: **Betty Hoskins, Rocco Ferraro** and those whose anniversaries occur around this time: **Noel Finch, Giuseppe and Maria Natoli, Coni Basile, Juan Mardo, Paul Chetcuti, Emmanuel Mifsud-Ellul, Lino Deanoz, Edward Duckett** and for the sick in our parish: **James Burgos, Solomon Keys, 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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Our Sunday Celebration

Thirty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time / A — **8 November 2026**

KEEP YOUR LAMPS BURNING. We human beings need fuel to keep going. Without food and drink we become weak and eventually die. Our spiritual life also needs fuel, namely the body and blood of Christ in the Eucharist. We are nourished also by prayer, the Scriptures, the community and by loving others. If we seek this nourishment regularly our light will be shining brightly when Christ comes in glory.



INTRODUCTORY RITES

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON
cf. Ps 87: 3

Let my prayer come into your presence.
Incline your ear to my cry for help, O Lord.

GREETING

P. In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
R. Amen.

P. Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.
R. And with your spirit.

PENITENTIAL ACT

P. Brethren (brothers and sisters), let us acknowledge our sins, and so prepare ourselves to celebrate the sacred mysteries.
P. Lord Jesus, you have revealed yourself as the way to the Father: Lord, have mercy.
R. Lord, have mercy.

P. You have poured out on your people the Spirit of truth: Christ, have mercy.
R. Christ, have mercy.

P. You are the Good Shepherd, leading us to eternal life: Lord, have mercy.
R. Lord, have mercy.

P. May almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us our sins, and bring us to everlasting life.
R. Amen.

GLORIA

Glory to God in the highest, / and on earth peace to people of good will. / We praise you, / we bless you, / we adore you, / we glorify you, / we give you thanks for your great glory, / Lord God, heavenly King, / O God, almighty Father. / Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son, / Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, / you take away the sins of the world, / have mercy on us; / you take away the sins of the world, / receive our prayer; / you are seated at the right hand of the Father, / have mercy on us. / For you alone are the Holy One, / you alone are the Lord, / you alone are the Most High, / Jesus Christ, / with the Holy Spirit, / in the glory of God the Father. / Amen.

COLLECT

P. Almighty and merciful God, graciously keep from us all adversity, so that, unhindered in mind and body alike, we may pursue in freedom of heart the things that are yours. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever.
R. Amen.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

FIRST READING
Wis 6: 12-16

A reading from the book of Wisdom.
Wisdom is found by those who look for it.

Wisdom is bright, and does not grow dim.
By those who love her she is readily seen,
and found by those who look for her.
Quick to anticipate those who desire her,
she makes herself known to them.
Watch for her early and you will have no trouble;
you will find her sitting at your gates.
Even to think about her is understanding fully grown;
be on the alert for her and anxiety will quickly leave you.
She herself walks about looking for those who are worthy of her
and graciously shows herself to them as they go.
in every thought of theirs coming to meet them.

The word of the Lord.
R. Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM
Ps 62: 2-8. R. v. 2

R. My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord my God.

1. O God, you are my God, for you I long;
for you my soul is thirsting.
My body pines for you
like a dry, weary land without water. R.

2. So I gaze on you in the sanctuary
to see your strength and your glory.
For your love is better than life,
my lips will speak your praise. R.

3. So I will bless you all my life,
in your name I will lift up my hands.
My soul shall be filled as with a banquet,
my mouth shall praise you with joy. R.

4. On my bed I remember you.
On you I muse through the night
for you have been my help;
in the shadow of your wings I rejoice. R.

SECOND READING
1 Thess 4: 13-18

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Thessalonians.
Those who died as Christians, God will bring to life with Jesus.

We want you to be quite certain, brothers, about those who have died, to make sure that you do not grieve about them, like the other people who have no hope. We believe that Jesus died and rose again, and that it will be the same for those who have died in Jesus: God will bring them with him.

We can tell you this from the Lord's own teaching, that any of us who are left alive until the Lord's coming will not have any advantage over those who have died. At the trumpet of God, the voice of the archangel will call out the command and the Lord himself will come down from heaven; those who have died in Christ will be the first to rise, and then those of us who are still alive will be taken up in the clouds, together with them, to meet the Lord in the air. So we shall stay with the Lord for ever. With such thoughts as these you should comfort one another.

The word of the Lord.
R. Thanks be to God.

Shorter form, 1 Thess 4: 13-14

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION
Mt 24: 42, 44. R. v. 2

Alleluia, alleluia! / Be watchful and ready: / you know not when the Son of Man is coming. / Alleluia!

GOSPEL
Mt 25: 1-13

P. The Lord be with you.
R. And with your spirit.
P. A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.
R. Glory to you, O Lord.

Look, the bridegroom comes. Go out to meet him.

Jesus told this parable to his disciples: 'The kingdom of heaven will be like this: Ten bridesmaids took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. Five of them were foolish and five were sensible: the foolish ones did take their lamps, but they brought no oil, whereas the sensible ones took flasks of oil as well as their lamps. The bridegroom was late, and they all grew drowsy and fell asleep. But at midnight there was a cry, "The bridegroom is here! Go out and meet him." At this, all those bridesmaids woke up and trimmed their lamps, and the foolish ones said to the sensible ones, "Give us some of your oil: our lamps are going out." But they replied, "There may not be enough for us and for you; you had better go to those who sell it and buy some for yourselves." They had gone off to buy it when the bridegroom arrived. Those who were ready went in with him to the wedding hall and the door was closed. the other bridesmaids arrived later. "Lord, Lord," they said "open the door for us." But he replied, "I tell you solemnly, I do not know you." So stay awake, because you do not know either the day or the hour.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

R. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

HOMILY

PROFESSION OF FAITH APOSTLES' CREED

Or the Nicene Creed may be said.

I believe in God, / the Father almighty, / Creator of heaven and earth, / and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, / who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, / born of the Virgin Mary, / suffered under Pontius Pilate, / was crucified, died and was buried; / he descended into hell; / on the third day he rose again from the dead; / he ascended into heaven, / and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty; / from there he will come to judge the living and the dead. / I believe in the Holy Spirit, / the holy catholic Church, / the communion of saints, / the forgiveness of sins, / the resurrection of the body, / and life everlasting. Amen.

PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL

LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

After the priest raises the paten with the bread and prays, and then the chalice, we respond to each prayer:

R. Blessed be God for ever.

P. Pray, brethren (brothers and sisters), that my sacrifice and yours may be acceptable to God, the almighty Father.

R. May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands for the praise and glory of his name, for our good and the good of all his holy Church.

PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

P. Look with favour, we pray, O Lord,
upon the sacrificial gifts offered here,
that, celebrating in mystery the Passion of your Son,
we may honour it with loving devotion.
Through Christ our Lord.

R. Amen.

THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

P. The Lord be with you.

R. And with your spirit.

P. Lift up your hearts.

R. We lift them up to the Lord.

P. Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

R. It is right and just.

PREFACE I-VIII OF THE SUNDAYS IN ORDINARY TIME

After the Preface, we sing or say:

All: Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of hosts.
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.

THE MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION

P. The mystery of faith.

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

COMMUNION RITE

P. At the Saviour's command and formed by divine teaching, we dare to say:

All: Our Father, who art in heaven ...

P. Deliver us, Lord, we pray...

All: For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours now and for ever.

P. Lord Jesus Christ, who said...

R. Amen.

P. The peace of the Lord be with you always.

R. And with your spirit.

P. Let us offer each other the sign of peace.

All exchange a sign of peace

LAMB OF GOD

All: Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, grant us peace.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P. Behold the Lamb of God, behold him who takes away the sins of the world. Blessed are those called to the supper of the Lamb.

R. Lord, I am not worthy that you should enter under my roof, but only say the word and my soul shall be healed.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON cf. Ps 22: 1-2

The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.
Fresh and green are the pastures where he gives me repose,
near restful waters he leads me.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P. Nourished by this sacred gift, O Lord,
we give you thanks and beseech your mercy,
that, by the pouring forth of your Spirit,
the grace of integrity may endure
in those your heavenly power has entered.
Through Christ our Lord.

R. Amen

THE CONCLUDING RITES

P. The Lord be with you.

R. And with your spirit.

P. May almighty God bless you,
the Father, and the Son, ✠ and the Holy Spirit.

R. Amen.

P. Go in peace, glorifying the Lord by your life.

R. Thanks be to God.

BREAKING OPEN THE WORD

STAY AWAKE!

As we move towards the final Sundays of our liturgical year, the Evangelist turns our attention to watchfulness and alertness. While this teaching is essentially about God's coming at the end of time—the 'Parousia,' or God's final coming—it also invites us to remain alert to Christ's coming whenever and however that occurs in our lives.

Matthew sets his parable within the familiar setting of a Middle Eastern wedding. At night, ten bridesmaids await the arrival of the bridegroom, carrying oil lamps to welcome him to the celebrations. Five are prepared and have enough oil; the others are not. When the bridegroom's arrival is delayed, the unprepared bridesmaids ask the others to share their oil. They refuse, telling them instead to go and buy what they need. By the time they return, the wedding celebration has begun and the door is shut. The Gospel concludes with the familiar injunction: 'Stay awake, because you do not know either the day or the hour.' The message seems clear: we are to remain ready for God's coming, whenever that may be.

But is that the whole message? Another question deserves consideration: *Why do those who have enough oil refuse to share with those who do not?* Their refusal contributes to their sisters' exclusion from the wedding feast. Could the Gospel be asking us to 'stay awake' not simply for God's coming, but to recognise those in need around us—so that everyone might share in the divine wedding banquet?

Fr Michael Trainor

A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAUL

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Do not be afraid. Open wide the doors to Christ."

On the **First Sunday of Advent**, join us as we commemorate the *40th Anniversary of Saint John Paul II's historic meeting with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples at Blatherskite Park, Alice Springs, on 29 November 1986.* His message of dignity, respect, hope and reconciliation remains a powerful inspiration for the Church in Australia today.

Sunday 29 November 2026
9:30 am
Sacred Heart Cathedral, Newcastle
Mass celebrated by Bishop Michael Kennedy

As we light the First Advent Candle, **the Candle of Hope** , we reflect on the hope that Saint John Paul II shared forty years ago: a vision of a Church enriched by the cultures, wisdom, and faith of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples. This Mass will include:

Smoking Ceremony
Traditional Welcome by an Elder
Cultural Dance and Song
Yidaki (Didgeridoo) Players
Prayer and Reflection inspired by Saint John Paul II's message of hope and reconciliation

Morning Tea will follow on the grass grounds adjacent to the Toohey Room *(weather permitting).*

All are warmly invited to this special Mass, celebrating faith, culture, hope and unity as we honour the enduring legacy of Saint Pope John Paul II. May the Spirit who guided Saint John Paul II to Alice Springs in 1986 continue to guide us today, as we journey together in faith and hope.

Saint John Paul II, pray for us.

To RSVP your attendance or dietary requirements for Morning Tea, or for general enquiries about this Mass, please email Mission@mn.catholic.org.au

Exhibition Celebrating the Life and Work of Fr Julian Tenison Woods

The Diocesan Resource Centre invites you to visit a special exhibition celebrating the life and work of Fr Julian Tenison Woods.

Inspired by Sr Jan Tranter's recently published book, *Julian Tenison Woods: The Human Journey – Priest, Founder, Friend*, the exhibition offers a unique insight into Fr Woods' life through geological specimens, photographs, books, a looping presentation and other historical materials.

This immersive display has been designed to help visitors gain a deeper understanding of Fr Woods' legacy and his significant contribution to the Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle.

Who: Everyone is welcome, including schools, parish groups and community members
Where: Diocesan Resource Centre
When: Now until the end of the year

Come and discover the story of a priest, scientist, educator and friend whose influence continues to shape our Diocese today.

You can visit the DRC on Mondays (10am-5pm), Fridays (10am-5pm) and the 1st and 3rd Saturday of the month (10am-2pm).

https://mn.catholic.org.au/event/exhibition-celebrating-the-life-and-work-of-fr-julian-tenison-woods/

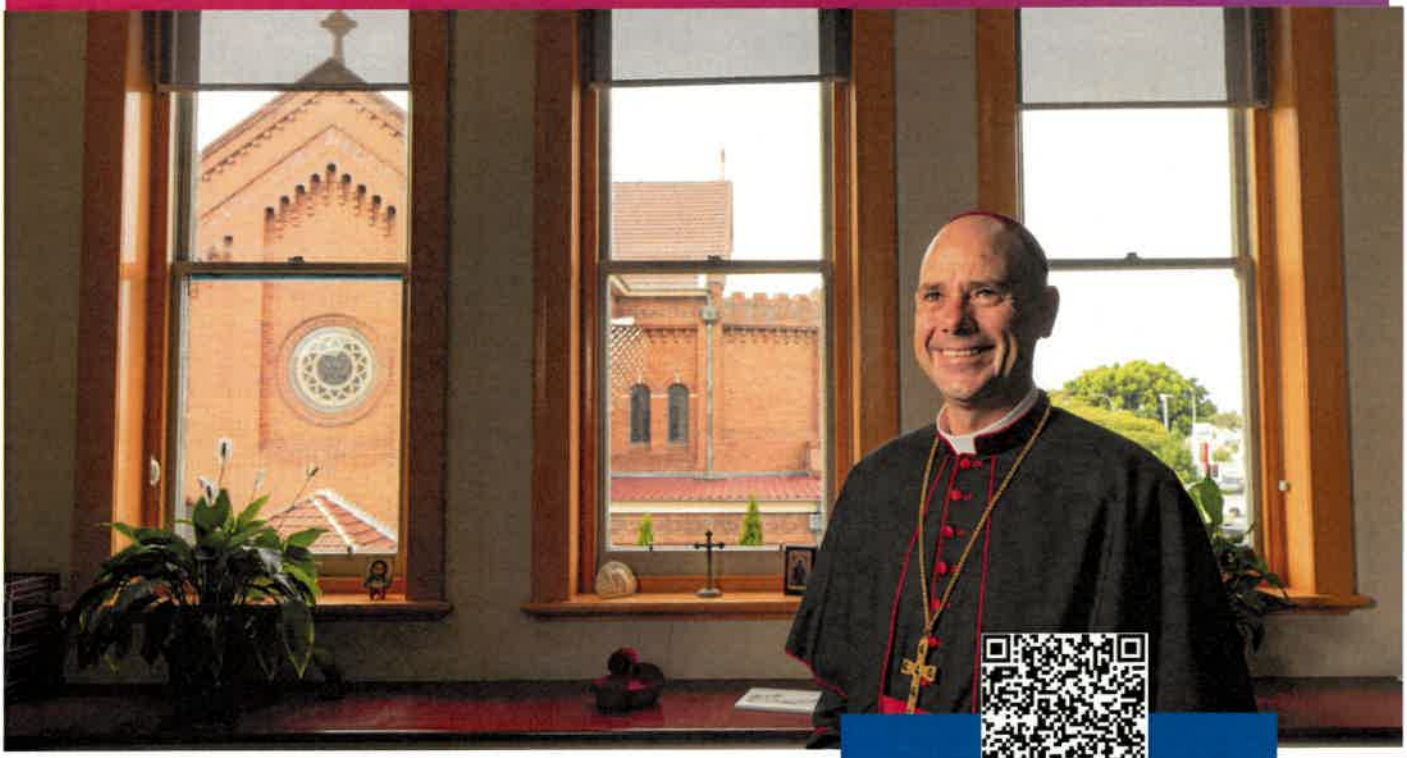
Working in the Church

Online Seminar New Shore Strategy for Mission invites you to "Working in the Church: Understanding its Mission, Culture and your Place Within it", a two-part online professional formation seminar being held on 25 and 27 November for people serving across Catholic organisations. Archbishop Mark Coleridge will open the seminar by reflecting on the mission that lies behind the Church's work, with Fr Brian Lucas leading the principal formation across the two sessions. Sr Clare Nolan RSC and Martin Teulan, Executive Director of the Association of Ministerial PJPs, will also bring their experience and perspectives to the program. The seminar is designed for those working across Catholic education, health, welfare and social services, dioceses, parishes, ministries, charities and other Catholic organisations. It will explore the Church's mission and culture, the place of lay and professional staff within that mission, and what it means to work effectively and purposefully within the life of the Church. Further information and registration are available at: newshore.co/events or if you have any questions please contact the organiser directly: bernard@newshore.co.

SRE & Children's Ministry Reflection Day

with Bishop Michael Kennedy

THURSDAY 17 DECEMBER 2026



Join us for a special day of reflection, renewal, and community as we gather for the **SRE & Children's Ministry Reflection Day with Bishop Michael Kennedy**.

This is a wonderful opportunity for Scripture Religious Education teachers, children's ministry leaders, and volunteers to pause, be encouraged, and deepen their sense of calling in the vital work of nurturing faith in the next generation. Under the guidance of Bishop Michael Kennedy, the day will offer space for spiritual refreshment, shared wisdom of the year that was, and meaningful conversation.

*REFLECTION DAY CANNOT BE USED AS SRE ONGOING TRAINING

When
Thursday 17 December 2026
9:30am – 2pm

Where
St. Stephen's Church,
Witt Street, Tea Gardens

RSVP
By Thursday 10 December
Scan the QR Code

Morning Tea & Lunch provided

Catholic Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle

mn.catholic.org.au