

St Michael's Catholic Parish Nelson Bay

Parish Priest: Fr. Kevin Corrigan

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St Michael's Primary School Principal: Ms Helen Bourne Phone: 4981 1111

Parish Office Hours: Tuesday - Friday 9.00am - 3.00pm

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph 31 December 2017 (Year B)

THIS WEEK'S MASS TIMES

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| Monday: | 9.15am Mass - Mary, Mother of God, World Day of Prayer for Peace |
| Tuesday: | 8.00am Mass |
| Wednesday: | No Mass |
| Thursday: | 9.15am Mass |
| Friday: | 9.15am Mass |
| Saturday: | 9.15am Mass |
| | 5.00pm Reconciliation |
| | 6.00pm Vigil Mass |
| Sunday: | 8.30am Mass |

World Day of Prayer for Peace

"May the Lord enable all of us to be peacemakers wherever we find ourselves, in our families, in school, at work, in the community, in every setting.

"Let us wash the feet" of one another, in imitation of our Master and Lord. To him be glory and praise, now and forever. Amen".

Pope Francis, November 2017.

Responsorial Psalm, Gospel Acclamation and Eucharistic Acclamation:
on large screen during holidays

NEXT WEEK: The Epiphany of the Lord

First Reading: Is 60:1-6
Second Reading: Eph 3:2-3, 5-6
Gospel: Mt 2:1-12

Next week's readers: Sat: R Tucker & J Turner
Sun: P Tobin & Sr C Norman

Please pray for:

Recently Deceased: Katie Aquilina

Anniversaries: Louis Aquilina, Domenic Aquilina, David Mendoza

A Child's Prayer of Thanks for Family

Dear God,
I'm thankful
For all You give:
For food,
For love,
A place to live.
I thank you
for my family too
And I want you to know
That I love you.
Amen.



Feast of The Holy Family

Today's reading from Luke reminds us of the wonderment of new parents, of possibilities, hopes and fears for the new life they have to nurture and the family they have become.

We can only imagine the domestic life of the Holy Family. They are an example of domestic church, living in communion as they faced the insecurities of Jewish family life under Roman rule. Families have traditionally come together to celebrate at this time of year.



As the year draws to an end it is a natural time for reflecting on the giftedness, the challenges, the fragility, and the strength of family bonds. May the imminence of the new year allow us to draw on the strengths, face the challenges, respect the fragility, and embrace the giftedness of our own unique family.

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The Christmas Special Collection at Christmas Masses

The total collection from the Christmas Masses First Collection was \$4,931.15. This will be disbursed as follows:-

\$4,438.04 to Caritas Australia East Africa Food Crisis Appeal.

\$493.11 to Pregnancy Help Pro-Life Counselling Agency

Thank you for your generous donation to help and love our neighbour in these ways. *Fr Kevin*

You are invited on a Coach Trip to the Ordination of Bishop Elect Brian Mascord

7.00pm, Thursday, 22nd February 2018, at WIN Entertainment Centre (Corner Crown and Harbour Sts, Wollongong).



Principal Consecrator: Archbishop Anthony Fisher OP, Co-Consecrators: Bishop Peter Ingham and Bishop William Wright.

Travel by Coach leaving Hamilton on Thursday, 22nd February at 11.00am, arrive Wollongong at 3.30pm;

return by Coach leaving Wollongong on Friday, 23 February at 9.00am, arrive Hamilton 1.30pm.

Accommodation and Breakfast at Sage Hotel - a short walk from the Entertainment Centre. Single - \$270, Twin Share - \$170 each person, Couples - \$170 each person.

Travel and accommodation needs to be secured. Please contact Teresa Brierley, after 2nd January, to indicate your interest by Monday, 22nd January 2018 by phone 4979 1157 or email Teresa.brierley@mn.catholic.org.au.

Holiday Reminder

It is important that everyone leaves the church car park through the school gates. Please do not exit via Sproule Street. We are also reminded to be aware of the residents in Sproule St. Please do not obstruct the driveways of the residents.

Visitors: we hope you enjoy your stay with us.



Your participation in our community gives us **life and joy**.

As such we would invite you to make a contribution in the visitors envelopes provided on the seats and place them on the second collection.

Your assistance with this request is gratefully appreciated.

St. Michael's Parish Finance Committee

The **Parish Caring Group** has asked if you know someone locally who would like a home visitation, please contact the Parish Office.

Christian Meditation is on every Friday at 10.30am in the Presbytery. Everyone is welcome!

Are you gluten intolerant? LOW GLUTEN communion bread is now available at St Michael's Church. Please speak with the Computer Operator if you would like to be given this bread at Communion.

Meeting Reminders:

10 Jan Special Works Meeting at 6pm
13 Jan Adult Faith Formation Meeting after Mass
17 Jan Caring Group Meeting at 1.30pm
18 Jan Social Group Meeting at 6pm
30 Jan Parish Council Meeting at 6.30pm

Could Rosae Clarke please contact the Parish Office.

Vocations Views - Families need blessings of patience, forgiveness, gratefulness and love. What will you do to show your love for your family? Ask for the grace to be holy. (Colossians 3:12-21). For more information regarding Vocations contact Fr Brian Mascord on 024979 1112 or vocations@mn.catholic.org.au.

2018 Annual Catechist Mass. *Goodness... Living by faith.* On Friday, 9 February 2018 at Sacred Heart Cathedral, Newcastle West at 7pm. Our Catechist Mass is a great opportunity for priests, parishioners, families and friends to celebrate the ministry of Special Religious Education, Sacraments of Initiation, RCIA and Children's Liturgy. Awards will be presented to those who have served as Catechists for over 10 years and to those who have completed training programs.

Finding Meaning in Later Life: A Spiritual Perspective

Ageing can be a perplexing time for individuals and families when facing its distinctive choices. To live fully and insightfully, it matters greatly that we understand the significant role of spirituality - what gives us meaning - during these years. Seminars on Tues, 20 Feb at Calvary Mater Hospital, Wed, 21 Feb at Muswellbrook or Thurs, 22 Feb at Forster. See Parish Office for further details.

This week's church roster reminders: Readers: 30th M Stedman & N Tucker 31st K Schiemer & G/D Mann **Ministers of Communion:**

30th L McIntosh, M Monin, S Pasquale, M Robinson, B Tubman, J Villanueva, A Watt, C Aquilina, C Bergsma, K Bushnell, J Busch
31st S Timbs, P & T Tobin, M Went, A Young, S & T Burgin, A Cunningham, J Eves, J & H Hope

Intinction of the Sacred Host at Communion

Intinction (dipping) the Host into the precious Blood is not the practice in the parishes of our Diocese. It will be helpful if you could kindly remember this, as you join in with our celebrations at Masses. Thank you, Fr Kevin