

St Michael's Catholic Parish Nelson Bay

Parish Priest: Fr. Kevin Corrigan

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

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

24th Sunday in Ordinary Time, 16 September 2018 (Yr B)

MASS TIMES

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| Monday: | 7.00am Mass |
| Tuesday: | 8.00am Mass |
| Wednesday: | 8.00am Morning Prayer (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 |

Plenary Council 2020 - Listen to what the Spirit is saying. Pope Francis has approved the Australian Bishops' decision to hold a Plenary Council in Australia in 2020 and 2021. It is a significant moment for the Church in Australia to make decisions about the future. To prepare the agenda for the Plenary Council, all God's people are invited to reflect on the question: what do you think God is asking of us in Australia at this time?

YOUTH LEADERSHIP TRAINING STARTS THIS WEEK

St Michael's Parish will be hosting a three session Leadership Training and Development Program for young people in the local area looking to grow and develop their leadership skills. The program will include elements of team building, personal growth, self-reflection, an introduction to Youth Ministry with an end goal of building a core team of young people to develop and lead a local youth ministry initiative.

When: (3 sessions) Thursday, 20th September, 27 September and 4 October

Time: 6.30pm - 8.00pm

Venue: Church Community Room

If you are interested in attending or know of someone you would like to invite to attend, please contact the Parish Office.

In our September 24th, 2017 Parish Pastoral Assembly, it was resolved that under the Parish Foundation called 'Community and Identity', the parish "Proceed with church refurbishment that will support community worship and improved engagement". Since that time our Parish Pastoral Council Members have been steadily working upon the commencement of these works. Significant roofing-repairs and repairs and renovations to the church toilets have already been completed.

The parish recently called Tenders for the required work. As a consequence members of the Parish Council and Finance Council have chosen Insight Building Services Pty Ltd as the preferred Tenderer. Bishop Bill Wright has approved proceeding with these works. Essentially, the scope of works comprise:

- Removal of the church dividing wall
- Enlargement of the Community Room and construction of a small store
- Replace acoustic ceiling tiles, lighting and fans
- Replacement of floor coverings
- Painting of exposed steelwork and new Community Room/Store walls

We will be drawing from the expertise of professional consultants, for example, in regards to colour schemes/carpets, and sound systems for music ministry.

We expect to be able to commence early October. During much of the 5-6 weeks of work, the celebration of weekday Masses will most likely not be possible in the church. Arrangements have been made with the Builder in order for us to be able to celebrate our Saturday night/Sunday morning Masses during this time. Over this time, there will be various inconveniences and your patience and co-operation will be appreciated. Many thanks to Parish Council and Finance Council Members who have been very generous with their time and efforts to be finally able to progress this project to its commencement.

God bless these works.
Fr Kevin

Aussie Farmers Pie Drive - If you ordered from the pie drive, please collect your order from the Parish Office on Wednesday after 10am. The office closes at 3pm. Please bring a bag for collection.

Social Justice Sunday - We celebrate Social Justice Sunday on 30 September. This year, the Australian Bishops' Social Justice Statement is titled: 'A Place To Call Home: Making a home for everyone in our land'. The Statement challenges us all to confront Australia's growing rate of homelessness and unaffordable housing. The Statements will be available for parishioners on the weekend of 30 September.

Pray for Year 12 Students - Please remember the Year 12 students of our Parish and Diocese in your prayers as they enter their final weeks of their schooling life and start the preparations for their HSC exams in October.

Participation in the National Council of Priests (NCP) Biannual Conference at Canberra - The theme of the conference was ..."Being Catholic in Australia Today... after the Royal Commission and Before the Plenary Council, 2020." About 150 clergy from around Australia attended. Major presentations were provided by Royal Commission Co-Commissioner Robert Fitzgerald, Psychologist Geraldine Taylor Robinson, Bishop Vincent Long, Fr Frank Brennan SJ, John Warhurst and Marilyn Hatton of Concerned Catholics of Canberra/Goulburn, and others.

The Conference focused on looking at the necessary reforms needed in our Catholic Church in the areas of governance/decision making, with strong emphasis on much greater lay involvement - particularly of women. Formation of seminarians, and ongoing formation of clergy, another significant theme. The crucial importance of the coming Plenary Councils successfully helping to implement deep reforms was keenly felt.

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| <u>NEXT WEEK'S READINGS:</u> | <i>Next week's readers:</i> |
| <i>25th Sunday in Ordinary Time</i> | <i>Sat: K Locke &</i> |
| <i>1st Reading: Wis 2:12, 17-20</i> | <i>D Maricic</i> |
| <i>2nd Reading: James 3:16 - 4:3</i> | <i>Sun: P Pidcock &</i> |
| <i>Gospel: Mk 9:30-37</i> | <i>Sr C Norman</i> |

Please remember in your prayers:



Deaths: *Orrie Gardon, Belinda Gardon, Santos Quinto Jnr*

Anniversaries: *Mary Tanti, Mary Conacher, Filipa Babor, Owen Jones, Annie Byrnes*

This week's church roster reminders:

Readers: *15th J Feenan & S Hickey 16th G Mann & D Mann*
Ministers of Communion: *15th C McCarthy, L McIntosh, M Monin, S Pasquale, M Robinson, S & R Ryan, M Stedman, B Tubman, N Tucker, J Villanueva 16th S & T Burgin, J Eves, J & H Hope, S Hughes, C Klum, G Mann, H Noble, A Young, 1 needed*

Monthly Roster Changeovers:

Church Cleaning for Sept: *P Douglas, S Hughes, A Ciba, C Ledingham*
Altar Society for Sept: *M White & S Burgin*

UPCOMING DATES

During September - Sundays at 2pm and Thursdays at 5.30pm in the Church Community Room

Laudato Si' Care For Our Common Home - Celebrating a Catholic Season of Creation during September. These sessions will enable us to engage with the liturgical resources of our Lectionary to bring to our prayer the needs of creation and to be called to action. If you are interested in attending, please add your name to the sheets on the back middle table. Before Mass for the next five weeks, a short clip will be shown relating to these sessions. There is a small prayer booklet available on the back table for the month of September.

27th September at 1.30pm in the Church Community Room

Understanding Change, Loss and Grief - We celebrate. We grieve. We rejoice. We weep. We all have moments of joy and sorrow. Jesus himself wept (Jn 11:35) and with compassion and love encouraged his disciples to gather together regularly to share experiences and support one another. '*Understanding change, loss and grief*' is such an opportunity. This 2 hour seminar will explore how grief impacts on your life and the lives of those you know and care for, examine how one moves forward with healing and hope, identify different types of grief, deepen your understanding of grief reactions and factors that influence them and reflect on the importance of caring for self, especially as we walk alongside others in grief. The facilitator is Benita Tait (DoMN Stepping Stones team and facilitator for Seasons for Growth).

30th September at 9.30am - Morning Tea after Mass for the

celebration of St Michael's Feast Day - and to give thanks for the good things that have happened in the parish. You are encouraged to attend Mass on this morning and join the parish to celebrate St Michael's Feast Day and to share a morning tea together.

7th October - Beginning of Preparation for the Plenary Council.

21 October at 3.30pm in the Church Community Room

Food and Friendship - Save the Date. More details will be available soon.

Preparation of Adults for Reception of Sacraments of

Initiation - there are a small number of adults who have been having a period of formation and prayer in preparation for their receiving the sacrament of confirmation and first communion. Their names are Richard, Vaughan and young adult Celeste. They will soon have a simple ceremony at Mass indicating the faith they share with us. This will signify their need for our parish prayerful support for them prior to their receiving the Sacraments, most probably during the month of October. Our thanks to the little RCIA Team (Sr Cath Norman, Dr Angelo Fortune and Pauline Bakaric) for assisting in preparations.