



*The call to 'Encounter Jesus' is both an invitation and a mission.*

*We are an open, welcoming community that seeks to share the life and love of Jesus with every person we encounter.  
As a community, we strive to create those spaces where anyone can freely encounter the person of Jesus.  
We are further challenged to encounter Jesus in each other, in the world and in the life of the Church.*

**St Joseph's Catholic Church**

- 140 Wangi Rd, Toronto 2283
- 4959 2777
- torparish@mn.catholic.org.au
- www.torontoparish.org

**Weekend Mass Times:** Sunday 9am

**Reconciliation:**

Before Mass on Sundays

**This Week at St Joseph's**

- Sun 12th: Mass - 9:00am
- Mon 13th: Social Group - 9:30am
- Tues 14th: Mass (*Booragul*) - 9:00am
- Wed 15th: Mass (*Boolaroo*) - 9:00am
- Thur 16th: Mass (Warn/Bay) - 9:30am
- Fri 17th: Mass - 9:00am
- Playgroup - 10:00am
- Sun 19th Mass - 9:00am

The Church will be open from  
8:30am to 4:00pm daily.

**Parish Office Hours**

The Parish Office is currently operating from the Warners Bay Parish Office site (Shop 2, 24 Lake St, Warners Bay).  
Parish Administrator: Greg Barker 0417321209  
Administration : Leanne Hamilton 49592777  
Accounts: Maryanne Barry 49473301  
Emergency after hours 0493969362  
The Office at Warners Bay is open from 9am to 3pm, Mon - Fri.

We acknowledge the Awabakal people as traditional custodians of this place.

Dear Parish Family,

I'm really pleased with the great way that we are welcoming those families that are presenting children to us in readiness for baptisms. It is a rare gift that a few other parishes are starting to implement. There are two things for me in those moments: we get to celebrate what is at the heart of who we are as a Catholic community, sharing it with others, and to make a commitment as a community to model faith for the next generations coming on behind us. I might add without whom we have no future.

Our introduction and welcome add nothing to the length the Mass takes. I know sometimes that can be a struggle especially for those needing to be on time somewhere else.

The key elements, the naming and claiming for Christ and the first anointing fit nicely into the introductory rites, although they could easily work just after the homily. As a community we have a lot of baptisms. It says we must be doing something right. That is largely due to you as a community so you should pat yourselves on the back for that. The feedback we get from the families is really heartwarming. They appreciate the kindness expressed to them and the warmth of the welcome.

We often as a church talk in terms of womb to tomb, and the invitation to be present at everything in between – we want to be present at everything in between. This is part of that invitation for us. It cost nothing for us to be welcoming and kind. The babies particularly are cute. Their noise the noise of our future. I say a baby crying in Mass on Sunday morning is better than a baby crying at home.

Many say to me 'why isn't the church doing more to engage our young people?' 'Why aren't more young families in Church?' Sometimes we have to work out what practicing really means as we unpack both those questions. Practicing has two elements of course; prayer and worship, deeds and actions. One (*prayer and worship*) feeds and informs the other (*deeds and actions*) which feeds and informs the other (*prayer and worship*).

Both matters. How do we help each other makes sense of that? By our warmth in the welcome, our modelling faith in action, by our overt discipleship. 'Love and marriage, horse and carriage' kind of stuff. It all goes together and helps our community be credible, authentic and missionary.

Thank you to all of you for the great way you have embraced our outreach initiatives and the many opportunities you see to share your faith with others. It all builds a community of faith and brings about the kingdom of God.

Yours in Christ,

Greg  
Parish Administrator

**WE PRAY FOR THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS OF OUR COMMUNITY:**

**Sick List:** James Bennett, Silvi Bennett, Dakai Smith, Scott Massey, Lorraine Caldwell, Mary Anne Aganovic, Alec Aganovic, Ale Aganovic, Penny Jordan, Christopher Murray, Tamika Murray, Taylor Whalen, Brigitte Aganovic.

**Recently Deceased:** Ellen Normoyle, Ethan McKinnon

**Anniversaries:** Pat Poynton

*If you would like a loved one remembered in the Anniversaries, please let the Parish Office know by Thursday morning.*

**Laudato Si' Week 2024:  
Sunday 19 May to Sunday 26 May**

This year's theme "Seeds of Hope" is inspired by the 2024 Seasons of Creation symbol.

Resources, prayer cards, reflections, and other material that parishes may wish to consider utilising can be found at these two sites: Laudato Si' Week: <https://laudatosiweek.org> and Caritas Laudato Si' Week: [www.caritas.org.au/resources/library/laudato-si-week-parish/](http://www.caritas.org.au/resources/library/laudato-si-week-parish/)

**New Life in God's Spirit Seminar**

Are you open to allowing God to activate the gifts of the Holy Spirit, which you received in Baptism? The Immaculate Conception of Mary, Charismatic Prayer Group have been gathering for more than 40 years. They eagerly invite you to experience a six-week, 'New life in the Spirit Seminar'. This is an opportunity for you to journey with others to encounter Jesus, through the Holy Spirit. There will be music for Praise and Worship, guest speakers and discussion groups.

**Location:** Diocesan Resource Centre 12 Tudor Street (corner of Tudor and Parry Street), Newcastle West-adjacent to the Sacred Heart Cathedral.

**Time:** 6.30pm-8.30pm

**Start date:** Monday 20 May

**Cost:** Free. Simply register your name and contact details by calling or texting Bernadette Barlow on 0425 270 613. You can also register on the night. All are welcome!



**LOTTERY WINNERS  
FOR THIS MONTH**

1st Prize Ticket 41 \$140 Margaret Sheppard  
2nd Prize Ticket 15 \$100 Margaret Carmody  
Please contact Maryanne Barry at the office 49473301 to arrange payment.

**PARISH VOLUNTEER SAFEGUARDING TRAINING  
Tuesday 18 June 2024 | Session – 9.30am to 12.30pm  
(Lunch Provided)**

*Murray Room, 841 Hunter Street, Newcastle 2302*

All parish workers are required to attend **Safeguarding Training in Parishes** within 6 months of commencing in their role and every 6 years thereafter.

This training forms part of the **Diocese's mandatory training regime** and is specifically designed to support paid and unpaid helpers undertaking a broad range of ministries in church facilities and out in the community. The training targets the safeguarding needs of faith communities. The course will address:

- the Diocese's Safeguarding Framework policy
  - indicators of risk and vulnerability
  - indicators of abuse and neglect
  - boundaries in ministry
  - responding to disclosures
  - reporting obligations
- contributing to a 'Safe' culture

**Please Insert RSVP Tuesday 4th June to [torparish@mn.catholic.org.au](mailto:torparish@mn.catholic.org.au)**

**FINANCE**

**Sunday Collections at Mass**

Purple Collection Bag are for the support of the Clergy.  
Green Collection Bag are for the support of the Parish.

**Donations to the Parish**

<b>Parish Bank Details:</b>	<b>Clergy Collection</b>	<b>Parish Collection</b>
	<b>Account Name:</b> CBA	<b>Account Name:</b> CBA
	<b>BSB:</b> 066 739	<b>BSB:</b> 066 739
	<b>Account No:</b> 100003439	<b>Account No:</b> 100003443
	<b>Reference:</b> Surname	<b>Reference:</b> Surname

Thank you for your generous support of our parish.

**BBI Short Course: Ethical Foundations:  
Human Dignity Mondays 20 & 27 May, 4pm - 5:30pm**

Human dignity is at the heart of all ethical and moral reasoning. What do we mean by human dignity? Why is it so important, that without it, we cannot properly act toward others, develop economic systems or know what is good or bad care of another human being?

Register to join us at the Diocesan Resource Centre, at home or as a parish group at <https://forms.office.com/r/7uMVUncy4f>

Scan to Donate

Unique ID: 713291631

**Biggest Morning Tea**

ST MARY'S CHURCH  
WARNERS BAY

ALL WELCOME

**FRIDAY  
24TH MAY 2024  
10AM - 12PM**

### Magdalene Award: Nominations are open

Nominations are open for the 2024 Mary Magdalene Award! For more information or to make a nomination, visit [www.mn.catholic.org.au/church-mission/mission-and-outreach/council-for-women/magdalene-award-2024](http://www.mn.catholic.org.au/church-mission/mission-and-outreach/council-for-women/magdalene-award-2024)

### Christian Meditation – Saturday 25 May, 9.30am - 2.30pm

John and Anne Gray will lead this event, opening a space for inner silence, gratitude, love and divine beauty. The duo will lead us in Imaginative Contemplation and share the aims of the Worldwide Prayer Network.

Where: St James School Hall (Vista Parade, Kotara) – parking available on Church grounds or Street.

Morning tea provided. Bring your lunch. RSVP: [annecuskelly@hotmail.com](mailto:annecuskelly@hotmail.com) or 0407 436 808

\$10 donations would be appreciated

### DoMN Library Events

Check out the events that are happening at our library next month! Everyone is welcome to attend, our address is Diocesan Resource Centre Library – 12 Tudor Street – Newcastle West (Cnr Parry Street).

3. "Tilling the Church: Theology for an Unfinished Project." Zoom Discussion.

The last 2 sessions for Tilling the church will be:

Wednesday 15 May: Chapter 5. The Future-Oriented Past

Wednesday 19 June: Chapter 6. The Art of Faithfulness and Conclusion To register go to: <https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/tilling-the-church-theology-of-an-unfinished-project-tickets-708150125087>

### Sacred@Seven with Gen Bryant

From leading music ministry in her local parish, to performing for Pope Francis at World Youth Day, Genevieve Bryant is a much sought-after music minister and guest speaker who travels around Australia and the world, spreading the love of God through her gift of music.

Gen is joining us to share her amazing story and to encourage us all to step out in faith and to use the gifts that we have been given to impact this world.

Gen and her band members will also be leading the music ministry at Sacred@Seven.

Date: Wednesday 15th May 2024.

Event Address: 841 Hunter Street, Newcastle West 2303

Location: Toohey Room next door to the Sacred Heart Cathedral

Time: 6.30pm: Gen Bryant Talk (Stepping out in Faith - Using your gifts)

7.30pm- 8.30pm: Sacred@Seven - Fr Anthony Coloma (Praise and Worship, Testimony, Scripture, Preaching and Adoration)

Register: <https://forms.office.com/r/bs1TRP7CCN>

St Anne's Playgroup

PLAY & CONNECT

@ St Joseph's Community Centre

Fridays  
10am-12pm  
during school term

Find out more:  
Claire 0413 044 382

## **Standing on the Shoulders: The Official Opening of the Diocesan Resource Centre and Library and the 2024 TWEC Dinner – Friday 31 May**

It is with much excitement that you are invited to join us for the official opening of the Diocesan Resource Centre and Library. The Library, which stands on the site of the original Newcastle Central Catholic Library, offers our community access to resources relating to Religious Education, Scripture, Theology, Liturgy and more.

Following on from the official opening, the celebration continues with the reimagining of the TWEC dinner with guest speaker Kelly Paget, Chancellor and Director of Mission at the Diocese of Broken Bay. Kelly was amongst five Australians chosen personally by the Holy Father to participate in the General Synod of Bishops in Rome.

Library Opening – 4.30 PM

Free entry. All welcome

Dinner & Speaker – 5.30 PM

\$40 pp includes buffet meal and guest speaker presentation. Dinner Registration link: <https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/twec-dinner-library-opening-tickets-872278206597>

**The Padgets are attending the TWEC Dinner and they have 2 seats available in their car. If you would like to attend, they will be leaving Toronto at 3:30pm.**

**Please call 0438 671 959 for a lift.**

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## **Reflection Day with SRE Teachers**

Special Religious Education (SRE) offers a safe place for students in state schools to learn about Jesus' love and to discuss matters of faith, spirituality, and beliefs. For teachers, it is a response to a calling of journeying with young people as they come to know Jesus Christ, who loves and teaches love.

You are invited to join Bishop Michael Kennedy and the Special Religious Education teachers for a day of prayerful contemplation. Starting with Mass, this is an occasion to listen to and engage in stories and experiences involving this ministry. An opportunity exists in the afternoon for us to visit the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd to learn about this sacred space where children use sensory rich materials and Montessori principles to explore their relationship with God.

Morning tea and lunch will be provided. Register at <https://forms.office.com/r/iaKTYrJHt7>

## **Living Prayer**

Easter season is a time we rejoice in the resurrection of our Lord and hold dear the promise of new life and hope. However in the world around us, we know that not all are able to focus on joy, celebration and renewal at this time. As we gather as a community let us remember the profound love and sacrifice Jesus made for each and every one of us. So we pray:

- \* that nations will seek peace and reconciliation and that there will be an end to all wars, violence and famine.
- \* that those who live in despair, sadness and fear will find new hope.
- \* that people everywhere will strive to make the world a more peaceful place through simple, everyday acts of kindness and love.
- \* for the innocent victims and their families of the Bondi Junction incident.
- \* for all those with mental health issues.
- \* for church leaders of all faiths, that they keep their hearts and minds open to the word of Jesus.
- \* and give thanks for all the wonderful volunteers who came forward to various ministries via our Gifting Sunday.