**Bulletin Notices:**

**New updates**

1. **Human Library at the Diocesan Library**

On Friday 26 April, the Diocesan Library will hold its first Human Library event, the theme being War and Spirituality. Our books are 2 members of our Diocesan family, each has experienced war and the effects of war. One in the military and one as an innocent person living in a war zone. They are both people of faith. How have they maintained their faith in a space that can be so destructive to our belief in God? Did they ever struggle with their faith in the face of what they experienced? Do they ever feel fear now when they are safe from the physical aspect of war? What impact did their experience of war have on their family?

We invite you to come and listen to their stories, to ask the questions, to share and create relationships.

Date: Friday 26 April, 2024

Time: 10.30am to 12.30pm

Place: Diocesan Resource Centre Library - 12 Tudor Street, Cnr Parry Street, Newcastle West

Bookings Encouraged: <https://forms.office.com/r/1GEzWxaDiq>

1. **Alpha at The Mackillop Parish**

The Mackillop Parish invites you to join them for Alpha. Alpha is a friendly, informal environment for people with various beliefs to explore the meaning of life, faith and God. The program is simple: we start with dinner, watch a thought-provoking video exploring life from a Christian perspective, and then have time for sharing our perspectives in small groups. No cost, no pressure, no judgment. All are most welcome.

Event Start Date: Thursday 2 May  
Time: Thursdays 6.30pm to 8.30pm  
Location: Mackillop Function Room: - 7 Milson St, Charlestown NSW 2290.  
RSVP: <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdn9PD6B1firXrYgIgGVtBQ6S_DJ64l4OTX9lCyqYC4QqIN7g/viewform>

Dinner is provided and the cost is free. If you need any help registering, please contact Yvonne Rego: Mobile: 0450 323 206 Email: [yvonne\_rego@hotmail.com](mailto:yvonne_rego@hotmail.com)

**Opportunities included in previous notices**

1. **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>

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1. **Catechesis of the Good Shepherd Open Days**

Have you heard of the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd?

Operating out of the parish hall at Our Lady of Lourdes Beresfield in the Chisholm Parish region, the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd offers a child-focused program that meets in the specially prepared environment called “The Atrium”. Following the Montessori philosophy, The Atrium is currently open on Wednesdays during the school term, with sessions for 3–6-year-olds in the morning and 6–12-year-olds in the afternoon after school. The Catechesis of the Good Shepherd are holding open days during Term 2. If you would like the opportunity to visit and learn more, please register at: <https://forms.office.com/r/9KMf55C5nz>

1. **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>

1. **Christina 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

1. **SSEC’s Annual Conference: Paul, People and Places – Saturday 4 May, 8.30 to 5pm**

Join the Society for the Study of Early Christianity (SSEC) for an enlightening journey into the world of Paul the Apostle at our upcoming conference, delving into the fascinating places Paul visited and the diverse array of people he encountered. Paul’s letters are filled with people and allusions to their households and cities sit tantalizing in the background. How did these people come to be the early church? And what was Paul’s role in shaping the house churches in so many cities across the Mediterranean? Whether you’re a scholar, a history enthusiast, or simply curious about the life and travels of Paul, this conference promises to be an immersive and enlightening experience. Don’t miss this opportunity to uncover the enduring legacy of one of history’s most influential figures.

Registration link: <https://mq-ssec.org/2024-annual-conference/>

1. **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)

1. **Diocesan Library**

The Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle Library is open for patrons at 12 Tudor Street, Newcastle West.

Opening hours:

Mondays – 10am to 6pm

Fridays – 10am to 6pm

Saturdays 10am to 2pm

1. **aMeN caMiNo Information / Walk & Talk**

If you are considering attending one of the aMeN caMiNos this year and want more information, please join us for the Information / Walk & Talk on Saturday 27 April commencing at 8.30am at St Columba's Parish Hall, Lockyer St, Adamstown. After an information session, we will set off on our walk, returning around 1.30pm.

Contact [formed@mncatholic.org.au](mailto:formed@mncatholic.org.au) to register or for further information.

aMeN caMiNo 2024 Dates: 6-10 July, 3-7 August and 7-8 September.

**Ongoing opportunities**

1. Live stream Mass every Sunday at 9.30am at [www.mn.catholic.org.au/places/live-stream](http://www.mn.catholic.org.au/places/live-stream)

**Useful Links**

Here are some useful links and resources that may be new to you. Feel free to share with parish contacts or publish in parish bulletins (as appropriate):

* [Liturgy page](http://www.mn.catholic.org.au/catholic-faith/liturgy) – regularly updated
* [Faith formation page](https://www.mn.catholic.org.au/church-mission/catholic-life/adult-faith-formation/) – regularly updated
* [MNnews.today](http://mnnews.today) – Diocesan News Service
* [DoMN Library](https://www.mn.catholic.org.au/places/library/)
* [Subscribe to DioUpdate eNewsletter](http://www.mn.catholic.org.au/news-events/diocesan-e-news)
* [*Aurora* Magazine articles online](http://www.mn.catholic.org.au/news-events/aurora)