Bulletin Notices:

1. Live stream Mass every Sunday at 9.30am at <https://www.mn.catholic.org.au/places/live-stream/>
2. **Christmas Mass times**

Christmas Mass times are up on the Diocese website: <https://www.mn.catholic.org.au/2020-christmas-mass-times/>

Please be aware that for COVID-19 tracing, you must register to attend Christmas Mass. Registration instructions can be found next to each Mass centre.

Christmas Mass will also be livestreamed from the Sacred Heart Cathedral at the following times:

* [5:00pm Christmas Eve Vigil Mass](https://youtu.be/dLaVHxokbu4)
* [Midnight Mass (Christmas Day)](https://youtu.be/Zo2wIfYHgyM)
* [9:30am Christmas Day Mass](https://youtu.be/F1JgbS-pds0)
1. **A message from the Council for Catholic Women (CACW)**

As 2020 draws to a close there is much to look forward to for the women of our Diocese. Earlier this year the Council of Catholic Women (CACW) was disbanded hence members of the former Diocesan contact group have been challenged with keeping our women informed and included in future directions as we embark on a new beginning.

To that end some members of the former contact group have written to Bishop Bill in the interest of forming a Diocesan Council for Women.  Whilst awaiting a response, **a meeting has been scheduled for Thursday 11 February 2021 at 4pm in the Toohey Room**. Please enter this date in your diary as our vision is to include all Diocesan women through conversations, visits or Zoom to all parts of the Diocese and interest groups that are inclusive, reflective and fun.

The annual Magdalene Awards will take a break in 2021 but will be replaced by a celebration of Women in our Diocese. On Sunday 7 March – International Women’s Day, we have invited Bishop Bill to celebrate the 9.30am Mass at the Cathedral to mark this occasion. Hopefully we can all come together for a morning tea, but this will depend on Covid-19 restrictions. Parishes will also be invited to recognise women in their mass centres through prayer and hopefully hospitality.

Have a happy and holy family Christmas and when you put up your 2021 calendar or upload electronically, remember to circle 11 February 2021 as the change of direction for Diocesan women.

1. **Diocesan Synod – Sessions Two and Three**

The next sessions of the Diocesan Synod will be Session Two- Discernment to be held on the 22nd May 2021 and Session Three – Implementation to be held on the 20th November 2021.

Parishes are being asked to nominate delegates to receive an invitation from Bishop Bill to attend Sessions Two and Three.

Applications for Delegates close on 4th January 2021.

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1. **NSW Catholic Charismatic Renewal**

To all of you, member of Prayer Groups, Communities and individuals who actively participate in the grace of Catholic Charismatic Renewal.

We pray that you be abundantly blessed with joy, and an awareness of the presence of Emmanuel, God with us, as we celebrate again this Christmas, the coming of the Christ child through whom we are blessed to know salvation. We pray this blessing be for you, your families, and your groups & communities of faith. We give thanks for your commitment to the body of Christ and for our fellowship together, as we continue to proclaim “Jesus Christ is Lord!”

With the easing of COVID Restrictions, the January Retreat Conference ‘Equipped’, will be able to take place at the Carmelite Retreat Centre in Varroville over the weekend 30th/31st January 2021.

With the 2 sq metre rule still in place we have been limited to a maximum of 50 people who are able to be accommodated and attend the event. There was a plan to have the Conference Room extended in time for the Conference but this has now been delayed until February next year.

To ensure that a wider audience of people are able to participate, a team from the Community of the Risen Lord will be providing a live YouTube broadcast. We recommend that Prayer Groups and individuals join together at an appropriate venue to participate via this medium.

**[All information is on the flyer which can be found here](https://www.mn.catholic.org.au/media/4546/flyer-for-january-2021-equiped-weekend.pdf)**

1. **Christian Formation Course 2021**

The Christian Formation Course (CFC) is a face-to-face learning experience that allows participants to explore their life’s journey and their faith within the Catholic Tradition. This one-year course introduces participants to scripture, theology, church history, sacramental life, and liturgy. The course runs across twelve months and comprises of eight units. Commencing on Tuesday February 2, 2021, no prerequisite formation or qualification is required to enrol. All who complete the Course are awarded a diocesan Certificate in Christian Formation.

Bishop Bill writes:

The Christian Formation Course has been a very great contributor to Catholic life in this diocese. It is based on adult learning methods that involve the participants in on-going dialogue and engagement with the material and the staff. It is my hope that many, many people will take this course. I further hope that it will be just the beginning of their living more informed and engaged Christ lives.

If you would like to enrol in the Christian Formation Course in 2021 go to:

<https://www.mn.catholic.org.au/church-mission/catholic-life/adult-faith-formation/christian-formation-course/>

Don’t miss out on anything in your Diocese! Go to mnnews.today to see updates and read stories about what is happening locally.

**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
* [Synod website](http://www.domnsynod.com.au) – Information about the Diocesan Synod 2019-2021
* [DoMN Library](https://www.mn.catholic.org.au/places/library/)
* [Subscribe to Diocesan Update 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)
* [Full Diocesan Calendar and Community Noticeboard](http://mnnews.today/calendar/)