Bulletin Notices:

1. Live stream Mass every Sunday at 9.30am at <https://www.mn.catholic.org.au/places/live-stream/>
2. **Reflection Days with Bishop Bill**

As we move closer to Session Two of Synod, you are invited to listen and contemplate as Bishop Bill reflects on:

* Francis’s vision of our future Church
* our Australian experience
* future possibilities.

The two-hour presentation will include questions for dialogue and afternoon tea/supper.

Bishop Bill will present his reflection in a variety of locations across the Diocese, repeated both before and after Mass. Attendees can choose which reflection session they would prefer to attend. Registration before the day is essential. To register go to: <https://www.domnsynod.com.au/get-involved/reflection-days-with-bishop-bill/>

In each location

**Reflection 1** will occur between **2.30pm-4.30pm**

**Mass** will be held between **5pm-5.30pm**

**Reflection 2** will occur between **6pm-8pm**

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| **Day** | **Date** | **Session** | **Time** | **Pastoral Region** | **Venue** |
| Tuesday | April 13 | Reflection | 2.30pm – 4pm | Upper Hunter | St Joseph’s High School, Segenhoe St  Aberdeen |
| Mass | 5pm – 5.30pm |
| Reflection | 6pm – 8pm |
| Wednesday | April 14 | Reflection | 2.30pm – 4pm | Chisholm/ Vineyards | All Saints College - St Mary’s Campus  16 Grant St,   Maitland |
| Mass | 5pm – 5.30pm |
| Reflection | 6pm – 8pm |
| Thursday | April 15 | Reflection | 2.30pm – 4pm | Blackbutt/ Port Stephens/  Eastlakes/City | St Mary’s Immaculate Parish  11 Milson St,  Charlestown |
| Mass | 5pm – 5.30pm |
| Reflection | 6pm – 8pm |
| Tuesday | April 20 | Reflection | 2.30pm – 4pm | Northern | Holy Name Parish  33 Lake St,  Forster |
| Mass | 5pm – 5.30pm |
| Reflection | 6pm – 8pm |
| Thursday | April 22 | Reflection | 2.30pm – 4pm | Macquarie/ Western | St Joseph’s Parish  140 Wangi Rd,  Toronto |
| Mass | 5pm – 5.30pm |
| Reflection | 6pm – 8pm |
| Tuesday | May 4 | Reflection | 2.30pm – 4pm | Blackbutt/Port Stephens/Eastlakes/City | Cathedral House  Sacred Heart Cathedral  841 Hunter St  Newcastle West |
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1. **Building the Kingdom of God Booklet**

Parishes are encouraged to be familiar with the ***Building the Kingdom of God Together, Our Journey****,* the Diocesan Contemplative Dialogue Reflection Program. To order a hard copy, please complete the [**Order Form**](https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=x2JU50ZySU-2DkekmO6p1mZPHNUvHQxFqc3_Tu5E5xZUNlNLVUxMQ0xNUzBNTUYxSFJFQlZVRllGTC4u)   The books will be delivered by our Family Ministry Coordinators to the parish office indicated on your form, or can be pick up from the Diocesan Office reception. There is an online version of the program on our Diocesan Synod website, you can provide feedback under the *Get Involved* tab, on the Submissions page.

1. **Caritas Virtual Immersion Bulletin Notice**

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| Each week during this Lenten season, Caritas Australia is holding Virtual Immersion opportunities for parishes via Zoom video conferencing. These digital engagements will allow participants to focus on prayer and reflection, Catholic Social Teaching and an interview and Q&A with Caritas International Program staff.  Sessions will run Tuesdays and Thursdays for one hour across Australia. You can register for a Virtual Immersion by going to [lent.caritas.org.au](http://lent.caritas.org.au/virtualimmersions).  [**For the Virtual Immersions Schedule, please click here**](https://www.mn.catholic.org.au/media/4593/pc-virtual-immersion-schedule-parishes-pdf-1752cd.pdf) |

1. **Caritas Autumn Newsletter**

The Caritas Autumn newsletter is now available online at <https://www.caritas.org.au/news/our-magazine/>. Check out their latest news and stories from overseas and in Australia.

1. **Caritas Australia Timor-Leste and Indonesian Floods Emergency Appeal**

On 4 April 2021, Tropical Cyclone Seroja struck Timor-Leste and eastern parts of Indonesia, triggering torrential rain and flash flooding. The floods swept away homes and destroyed roads, with parts of the Timor-Leste capital, Dili, now under water.

At least 157 people in Timor-Leste and Indonesia have already lost their lives. The death toll is expected to rise, with information still filtering through from the more remote regions of Timor-Leste.

Timor-Leste is also facing a COVID-19 crisis, with Dili under lockdown following a rise in locally acquired cases. Indonesia has also struggled to contain the spread of COVID-19, with over 1.5 million confirmed cases – the highest in South East Asia. The flood will heighten the risk of community transmission, with thousands of displaced residents forced to seek shelter together in close quarters inside evacuation centres.

Approximately 13,000 people have been affected by the floods and landslides, including more than 10,000 in Timor-Leste.

Caritas Australia are calling for donations so they an provide urgent, emergency support to communities in Timor-Leste and Indonesia devastated by the floods. Your donation means our partners on the ground can help provide clean water, food, hygiene kits and shelter to those who need it most.

For more information on how you can help, visit: https://www.caritas.org.au/timor-leste-and-indonesian-floods-emergency-appeal/.

1. **Social Justice Art Workshop – Exhibition**

**T**he Social Justice 2020-2021 Statement, *To Live Life to the Full: Mental health in Australia today*, provides the opportunity to better understand mental illness and how as social beings we need the bonds of family, friends and the broader community to celebrate the joys and hopes of life.

Artists are invited to create a work based on the themes found in the Social Justice Statement. Works can be 2 or 3 dimensional no larger than 1 x 1 metres. Name, title of work, school, parish and phone number clearly labelled on the back. This information plus a 150 word (maximum) artist statement must accompany the work and be emailed through to rose.mcallister@mn.catholic.org.au before June 19.

Please join us for a day of prayer, reflection and art making. $10 cost covers all art materials used on the day. Participants will need to bring their own lunch on the day. Artworks will become part of the Social Justice art exhibition/competition held on July 17 at the Veritas Centre Mayfield.

**Dates:**

Wednesday April 28, 9.30am-2.30pm: St Columban’s Hall, Church St, Mayfield

Thursday April 29, 9.30am-2.30pm: Catholic Parish Office, Unit 5/16 Cambridge St, Singleton

Friday April 30, 9.30am-2.30pm: Community Centre St Joseph’s Parish Kilaben Bay, 140 Wangi Rd, Toronto

Monday May 3, 9.30am-2.30pm: Holy Name of Jesus Parish, 33 Lake St, Forster

To register to go:<https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/social-justice-art-workshop-tickets-145391039513>

For more information contact: [rose.mcallister@mn.catholic.org.au](mailto:rose.mcallister@mn.catholic.org.au)

1. **What about the next TWEC dinner?**

Like so many events, the TWEC Dinner was unable to be held in 2020. There is still a lot of uncertainty and until the coronavirus vaccine is freely available, that situation is likely to remain.  
  
Also, many members of the diocesan community are preparing for the second and third sessions of the Diocesan Synod, to be held in May and November respectively. This initiative is an opportunity for the People of God in Maitland-Newcastle to move closer to the reign of God which was the overarching hope of the Tenison Woods Education Centre from its foundation.  
  
Currently suitable dinner venues must adhere to COVID-19 safety requirements and as we all know, that situation can change quickly.  
  
Accordingly the TWEC Dinner Committee has discerned that it is not possible to hold a dinner in 2021. The Committee will certainly monitor the situation and is hopeful of announcing a dinner early in 2022.

1. **Tribunal of the Catholic Church**

Marriage breakdown is a distressing experience for all those concerned.  The Church reaches out in support of those who are divorced, while upholding the permanence of a true Christian marriage.  The Maitland-Newcastle Diocesan Office of the Interdiocesan Tribunal of Sydney extends an invitation to any divorced person who would like to talk about the annulment process. You can be assured that your privacy will be respected. Should you choose to apply for an annulment, you will be guided and supported through the process. For further information please phone the Maitland-Newcastle Diocesan Office of the Interdiocesan Tribunal of Sydney on 4979 1370 or email [tribunal@mn.catholic.org.au](mailto:tribunal@mn.catholic.org.au)

1. **Global Catholic Earthcare Lenten ideas**

The Global Catholic Earthcare Movement is sharing a calendar to help with the work of Project Compassion and share some Lenten ideas. [**You can view the calendar here.**](https://www.mn.catholic.org.au/media/4594/calendario-lent_en_.pdf)

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/)