Bulletin Notices:

**New updates**

1. **The Chosen Experience – Season 2**

We invite you to join us in soaking up to the sights, smells, and tastes of 1st Century Palestine as we view the second season about the life of Christ. *The Chosen* is a series which brings to life an interpretation of what life might have been like for Jesus starting his ministry. The series has been creatively produced and includes the backstories for each of the disciples that were individually chosen by Jesus. We are first invited into each of their lives, into their struggles and baggage. But once introduced to Jesus and the invitation to spend time with him, we are invited to witness such a transformation of each of his first followers.

Each Thursday evening join us to share a meal, watch and discuss the episode.

The Chosen Experience commences on 27 April at 6pm in the Murray Room.

<https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/the-chosen-season-2-tickets-595299666327>

1. **Palm Sunday Picnic for Peace**

At 1pm on Sunday 2 April, you’re invited to Civic Park for the Palm Sunday Picnic for Peace to gather with people from many community organisations and walks of life and faith perspectives to proclaim justice and peace on this significant day.

1. **Enflamed by Love Conference**

Newcastle Catholic Charismatic Renewal invites all people to the Enflamed by Love Conference, a series of workshops on evangelisation through faith, love, prayer and discernment run by the Missionaries of God’s Love (MGL) Sisters on Saturday 22/4/23 and Sunday 23/4/23 9am-3:30am at the Holy Cross Church Hall, 30 Oakland St Glendale. Cost: donation. Morning and Afternoon tea will be provided. BYO Lunch Please contact Wayne Caruana on 0466 631 394 or Mary-Anne De Luca 0409 077 373 for further information.

1. **Earth Hour**

This Saturday 25 March from 8.30pm, you’re invited to switch off and take some #TimeOutForNature during Earth Hour. Whether it’s 60 seconds, 60 minutes or beyond the hour, let your churches be a leader and commit to taking time to reflect on the wonder nature provides us this Earth Hour.

1. **Print and Pray- April 27- Corcoran Centre- Morpeth**

Join us during this Easter period for a day of prayer and printing. Participants will make their own Gelatine printing plate and experience the joys of using this form of monoprinting while engaging in prayerful reflection throughout the day. The printing process is extremely simple, versatile and addictive. It is equally well suited for professional or novice printmakers, craft enthusiasts, professional artists, and children. You will need to bring an apron, morning tea and lunch.

Cost: $25 for materials - participants will take home their own Gelatine printing plate.

<https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/print-and-pray-april-2023-tickets-595247941617>

1. **Newcastle Writer’s Festival – Resilience and Healing in the Aftermath of Trauma.**

Bringing together three writers whose work reflects the ongoing engagement with struggles for justice for survivors, the panel will discuss new ways and insights into understanding the catastrophe of child sexual abuse that has characterised so many countries in the 20th Century. The panel discussion is being held at the Lock Up in Newcastle on 11.30am on Saturday 1 April 2023, more information is available at <https://thelockup.org.au/resilience-and-healing-in-the-aftermath-of-trauma/>

1. **Loud Sky**

Loud Sky is a powerful collaborative art exhibition featuring five Hunter-based artists who have created new works responding to stories of survival. These stories were uncovered through the Royal Commission into institutional response to child sexual abuse in the Hunter region in 2016. The exhibition opens at The Lock Up in Newcastle on Friday 31 March and runs until 21 May 2023. More information is available at <https://thelockup.org.au/loud-sky/>

**Upcoming opportunities included in previous notices**

1. **Chrism Mass**

This year’s Chrism Mass will take place in Holy Week on Tuesday 4 April at 7.00pm in the Sacred Heart Cathedral Newcastle West. This is a first opportunity for all who wish to gather, to celebrate with our new Bishop, Michael Kennedy at Mass and a light supper. All are welcome. Those with a specific role in the Mass please arrive early as communicated. Read more at <https://tinyurl.com/chrism2023>

1. **Parish Employee and Volunteer Safeguarding Training – Wednesday 26 April**

All parish workers are required to attend Course 2: Safeguarding 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 register your attendance before Thursday 20 April by contacting the Office of Safeguarding on 4979 1390 or email: [oosgtraining@mn.catholic.org.au](mailto:oosgtraining@mn.catholic.org.au)

1. **Way of the Cross – Sunday 26 March**

This year, following over 55 years of local tradition, the Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle will once again celebrate the Ecumenical Way of the Cross on the grounds of Toronto Parish, Kilaben Bay on the Fifth Sunday of Lent.

Picking up the theme from this year’s World Youth Day (WYD) – “Mary arose and went with haste” – we will join with Bishop Michael Kennedy as we experience the Way of the Cross through the eyes of Mary. We will journey with creative retellings of Mary’s story as shared by women from across our Diocese and fellow Christian Churches. This prayerful experience will be supported by our school communities and local WYD pilgrims.

People will start gathering at St Joseph’s Toronto from 2pm at the Community Centre. The event will start at 3pm, afternoon tea will be provided.

1. **2023 Lenten Reflection: Finding Light within the Darkness**

Pastoral Ministries has prepared a Lenten resource for our diocese, *Finding Light within the Darkness*. Every Lent there is a fresh invitation to retreat from the noise and busyness of daily life. To listen with our heart, to contemplate our humanness so we can actively focus on humanity. We are invited to turn to God dwelling within us and consider how we can find light in the darkness and how we can be light to others. This resource provides opportunities for prayer, faith-sharing, and outreach in our local community.

To access this resource, go to:

[www.mn.catholic.org.au/church-mission/catholic-life/liturgy/lent-2023/](http://www.mn.catholic.org.au/church-mission/catholic-life/liturgy/lent-2023/)

**Ongoing opportunities**

1. Live streamMass 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
* [Synod website](http://www.domnsynod.com.au) – Information about the Diocesan Synod
* [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)