



CATHOLIC PARISHES OF TAREE AND WINGHAM

Our Lady of the Rosary Church, Taree
Our Lady of Perpetual help Church, Wingham
Our Lady of Fatima Church, Old Bar

Star of the Sea Church, Harrington
St Patrick's Church, Cundletown
St Therese Church, Lansdowne

Two Parishes One Faith
Committed to Stewardship
Good Stewards Sharing the
God-given Gifts of
Time Talent Treasure

PARISH OFFICE

Mon CLOSED; Tues - Fri 9.00 am - 3.30 pm
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PARISH PRIEST

Fr. Kevin Corrigan

OFFICE STAFF

PARISH SECRETARY: Lorrie Moore
FINANCE SECRETARY: Jenny Hutchison

PARISH GROUPS

Parish Pastoral Council, Liturgy Team,
Finance Council, Youth Group, Prayer Group,
Couples for Christ, St Mary's Catering Group,
Safeguarding, RCIC, RCIA, Readers, Ministers

13TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME- YEAR C

26TH JUNE 2022

POPE FRANCIS ON THE VOCATION AND MINISTRIES OF THE LAY CATECHIST IN PARISH COMMUNITIES AND THE CHURCH- A PARISH ASSESSMENT

Catechists in Our Parishes

In Taree and Wingham parishes we presently have 10 parish catechists who provide a generous part time ministry of accompanying families or adults in preparations for the Sacraments of Initiation, and of providing instruction in the Old Bar Primary School. Around Australian parishes, the ministries of the Catechists vocation are mostly focused upon these important areas. This discussion Paper is an invitation for us to affirm the importance this ministry amongst us, and to look broadly.

The Vocation and the Ministries of Lay Catechists World-Wide

a. Nigeria

Fr Christogonus is a priest in our Diocese who lives and ministers in the parishes of Glendale and Wallsend in Newcastle. Before coming to our Diocese as a missionary-priest, Fr Christogonus was a parish Priest in a large Nigerian parish. This parish had 3 or 4 more remote parish-centres. Each parish-centre had one Lay-Catechist appointed as the community-leader. Two of the catechists were appointed in part time ministry and two others were appointed as permanent Catechists. Their ministry involved providing pastoral care and Faith formation for the parishioners. Fr Christogonus would visit the parish-centres when he could to lead the Sunday Eucharist and to exercise his ministry. The catechists exercised their ministry as 'co-workers' (A.M #8) with the ministry of the Parish Priest (or Pastor).

b. Laos

Laos is a small East Asian country just north of Cambodia, and is ruled by a communist government. The Cardinal Bishop of the Catholic Church has in the past been gaoled by this Government. One mission strategy adopted there has been to appoint married-couples as Catechist community-leaders. Their mission as Lay Catechists is to live in parish communities in more remote areas and provide for the pastoral care and Faith formation of the people. This includes preparing people for the sacraments for the times when the priest visits to exercise his ministry.

c. New Guinea

For many decades, the Catholic Church in New Guinea has relied upon the appointment of lay-Catechists to care for the pastoral and Faith formation needs of catholic communities in the many remote areas of that country. The Lay catechists provide everyday ministries, and including leading funeral services. The appointed Parish Priest would visit the parish centre when he could to lead the Sunday celebration of Mass and to exercise his ministry- which included supporting and assisting the resident lay Catechist.

(Continued on next page...)

(We are in the country of the Worimi, Gamilleroi, Wanarua, Gweagul, Darkinjung, Biripi and Awabakal peoples. We respectfully acknowledge their Elders, celebrate their continuing culture and the living memory of their ancestors.)

The Recent Re-Discovery of the Vocation of the Lay-Catechist in Our Catholic Church

a. The 2020 Directory For Catechesis Authorised by Pope Francis

The Directory teaches us that the catechist is a '...keeper of the memory of God...' whose vocation serves to 'awaken' or to 're-awaken' this memory in others (D.C # 113). It speaks of the 'group of catechists' being a 'locus of communion' (D.C # 116) who work 'co-responsibly' (D.C # 89) with the Parish Priest (or Pastor as some Church documents say).

Pope Francis shows above the enormous good that the ministry of the lay-catechist will bring to the Faith life and mission of parish communities.

b. 2021 saw the release of Pope Francis' 'Ancient Ministry' instruction which has now officially recognised and approved the establishment of the stable (permanent) institution of the Lay Catechist ministry. **They may be recognised as 'community leaders' (A.M #3) and to minister as 'faithful co-workers' with the priest and deacons (A.M # 8).** In other words, the Lay-Catechist works interdependently with (and does not replace) the ministry of the appointed Parish Priest.

Our Present and Our Future Possibilities

As mentioned, our parishes presently have 10 part-time parish catechists who serve the Faith formation of others. When we look about or reflect a little we can agree that for all kinds of reasons there is a great need in our times for the presence amongst us of the 'awakening' or 're-awakening' vocation and ministry of lay-catechists. We can easily name the problems and challenges. At this time, parishioners are invited to consider approving the commencement of a process of further evaluation of the ways the exercise of the vocation and ministries of the lay catechists can deepen the Faith life and mission of our parish communities?

We are asked to consider in what ways could these lay-catechist ministries be well established and being exercised by the say the year 2027 (Fr Kevin's scheduled retirement year!).

We can right now use our 'Faith-imagination' to consider the possibilities. For example. Will we have a small community of lay-catechists whose ministry is for a few hours each week of outreach to visit young Catholic families and provide some pastoral care and support and encouragement in preparing children for the Sacraments? Will such a group of lay catechists have been provided with the preparation to enable them to assist adults in the renewal or rejuvenation of their Faith? This 'accompaniment' ministry of the catechist could be expressed in a number of helpful ways. This subject-matter is worthy of further discussion by parishioners, and seeking some indication of formal support- by the parish communities. Please give this your prayerful consideration.

The members of our Parish Pastoral Council encourage further consideration of this Paper by fellow parishioners. In summary form, this Paper provides us with insight into the Catholic Church's re-discovery of the significance of lay catechist ministries for the Church in these missionary times. We recommend that our two parishes take steps to further assess the particular ways the Church's vision can be engaged with in order to serve the life and mission of our Catholic communities here in both the short and long term.

On behalf of the Parish Council of Taree and Wingham,
Fr Kevin Corrigan PP

PRAYER LIST FOR TAREE AND WINGHAM PARISHES

SICK: Sandra Baker, Sue Berry, Cathy Callinan, Bev Crouch, Ken Fitton, Betty Howard, David Hutchison, Lorraine McKenzie, John Minihan, Kathy Murray, Neil Moroney, Linda Norris, Rose Sammut, Liz Taylor, Paul White, Anne Whatson, Noel Wolfenden.

ANNIVERSARIES: Joan Ryan, Jack White, Monica Mason, Lillian Truscott, Ron Mayers, Joseph Muldoon

RECENTLY DECEASED: Helen Williams, William Badewitz, Kim Townsend, Ray Townsend, James Hermes,

THIS WEEK'S READINGS

FIRST READING: 1 Kgs 19:16. 19-21

A reading from the first book of the Kings

Elisha rose and followed Elijah and became his servant.

The Lord said to Elijah: 'Go, you are to anoint Elisha son of Shaphat, of Abel Meholah, as prophet to succeed you.'

Leaving there, Elijah came on Elisha son of Shaphat as he was ploughing behind twelve yoke of oxen, he himself being with the twelfth. Elijah passed near to him and threw his cloak over him. Elisha left his oxen and ran after Elijah.

'Let me kiss my father and mother, then I will follow you' he said. Elijah answered, 'Go, go back; for have I done anything to you?' Elisha turned away, took the pair of oxen and slaughtered them. He used the plough for cooking the oxen, then gave to his men, who ate. He then rose, and followed Elijah and became his servant.

The Word of the Lord. **All:** Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING Gal 5:1. 13-18

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Galatians

When Christ freed us, he meant us to remain free. Stand firm, therefore, and do not submit again to the yoke of slavery.

My brothers, you were called, as you know, to liberty; but be careful, or this liberty will provide an opening for self-indulgence. Serve one another, rather, in works of love, since the whole of the Law is summarised in a single command: Love your neighbour as yourself. If you go snapping at each other and tearing each other to pieces, you had better watch or you will destroy the whole community. Let me put it like this: if you are guided by the Spirit you will be in no danger of yielding to self-indulgence, since self-indulgence is the opposite of the Spirit, the Spirit is totally against such a thing, and it is precisely because the two are so opposed that you do not always carry out your good intentions. If you are led by the Spirit, no law can touch you.

The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Alleluia, alleluia!

Speak, O Lord, your servant is listening;
you have the words of everlasting life.
Alleluia!

GOSPEL: Lk 9:51-62

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

Jesus resolutely set his face towards Jerusalem. I will follow you wherever you will go.

As the time drew near for him to be taken up to heaven, Jesus resolutely took the road for Jerusalem and sent messengers ahead of him. These set out, and they went into a Samaritan village to make preparations for him, but the people would not receive him because he was making for Jerusalem. Seeing this, the disciples James and John said, 'Lord, do you want us to call down fire from heaven to burn them up?' But he turned and rebuked them, and they went off to another village.

As they travelled along they met a man on the road who said to him, 'I will follow you wherever you go.' Jesus answered, 'Foxes have holes and the birds of the air have nests, but the Son of Man has nowhere to lay his head.'

Another to whom he said, 'Follow me,' replied, 'Let me go and bury my father first.' But he answered, 'Leave the dead to bury their dead; your duty is to go and spread the news of the kingdom of God.'

Another said, 'I will follow you, sir, but first let me go and say good-bye to my people at home.' Jesus said to him, 'Once the hand is laid on the plough, no one who looks back is fit for the kingdom of God.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

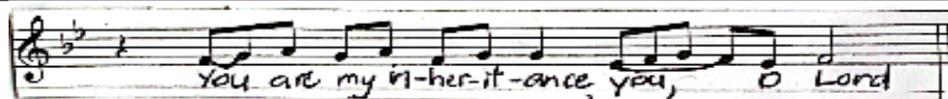
Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 15:1-2. 5. 7-11. R. cf. v.5

(R.) You are my inheritance, O Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM



NEXT WEEK'S READINGS—14TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

FIRST READING: Is 66:10-14

I will send toward Jerusalem peace like a river.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: Ps 65:1-7. 16. 20. R. v.1

(R.) Let all the earth cry out to God with joy.

SECOND READING: Gal 6:14-18

The marks I carry on my body are those of Jesus Christ.

GOSPEL: Lk 10:1-12. 17-20

Your peace will rest upon him.

PARISH NOTICES



Taree and Wingham Parishes

PARISH CALENDAR 2022

MONDAY 27TH JUNE—NO MASS

TUESDAY 28TH JUNE

10.00am Old Bar Rosary

4.30PM RECONCILIATION

5.30PM TAREE MASS

6.00PM TAREE LITURGY MEETING

6.00PM WINGHAM ROSARY

WEDNESDAY 29TH JUNE

12.00pm Helen Williams Funeral Mass

THURSDAY 30TH JUNE

5.30pm CUNDLETOWN MASS

+ RECONCILIATION

FRIDAY 1ST JULY

11.00AM JAMES HERMES FUNERAL MASS

10.00AM WINGHAM ROSARY

SATURDAY 2ND JULY

9.00am-12.00pm Parish Gathering
at St Mary's Hall

4.00pm Wingham Reconciliation

4.10pm Wingham Rosary

4.45pm Wingham Mass

5pm Harrington SCAE

6.15pm Taree Mass

SUNDAY 3RD JULY

14TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

7.00am Old Bar Rosary

7.30am Old Bar Mass

9.30am Taree Mass

12.00pm Christmas in July
St Mary's Hall

ANNA'S WIDOWS GROUP

Due to the Christmas in July lunch at St Mary's Hall on the 3rd there will be no widows lunch on that day.

RCIC- THANK YOU

We would like to Congratulate the 15 Children of our Parish who had their First Sacrament of Reconciliation last Thursday 23rd June. Thanks to our RCIC team members, Monica McMullen and Laura Boere for their faithful guidance during the ceremony.

WORLD MEETING OF FAMILIES Sunday 26th June



Christmas in July Lunch

At St Mary's Hall,

Sunday 3rd July,

12.00pm for 12.30pm start

Traditional 2 course Christmas lunch

Cost \$15.00 per adult or

\$7.50 for under 16 yrs old

Dutch Auction, Great prizes!!!

So gather your family and friends..

All welcome !

R.S.V.P. and payment at

Parish office Thursday 30th June .

Parish Gathering 2022

9.00am-12.00am

Saturday 2nd July at St Mary's Hall

with our guests

Teresa Brierley

(Director Pastoral Ministries)

and

Fr Matthew Muller

(Chancellor and Canonical Advisor)

from the Diocese of

Maitland-Newcastle

Purpose of the Visit to the Parish:

Gather the Parish

Overview of models of Parish Leadership

Begin or review Pastoral Planning

for the Parish

Imagine where the parish will be in 6 and

12 years time

Respond to any questions as to

"Why are we here today?"

Morning Tea and light lunch will be

served on the day.

Please RSVP to the Parish Office for

catering purposes.

SUGGESTIONS INVITED FOR WINGHAM CHURCH

PAVED SITTING AREA

Suggestions are invited for re-modelling and re-using the monument area near the West side entrance. The memorial area is in disrepair and poses risks as a trip hazard. The Cross and memorial plaque for Richard Stephens could possibly be remounted on the Church wall, and the dysfunctional brick Cairn could be removed and replaced with paving and seats. Other ideas are invited. Please pass suggestions onto Wingham Finance Council members. Thank you.

PERPETUAL DAY OF REMEMBRANCE ,14TH SEPTEMBER

Fr Greg Barker, the Diocesan Administrator has written a letter to be circulated around the Diocese on the subject of the Church's ongoing response to the crimes of sexual abuse in our Diocese. Copies of the letter are available at the Church entrance.

If you have any concerns for a child or vulnerable adult please contact the office of safeguarding: **Ph 4979-1390** or Email: childprotection@mn.catholic.org.au or visit their website for more information <https://officeofsafeguarding.org.au/>.