



The Catholic Community of HOLY TRINITY PARISH BLACKBUTT NORTH



St John the Evangelist Church
Dickson Street Lambton Est. 1873



Corpus Christi Church
Platt Street Waratah Est. 1917



St Therese's Church
Royal Street New Lambton Est. 1954

◆ TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME ◆ YEAR B ◆ 5 SEPTEMBER 2021 ◆

PARISH OFFICE

Street Address: 58 Victoria Street
NEW LAMBTON NSW 2305
Phone: 02 4979 1365
Email: triparish@mn.catholic.org.au
Website: www.holytrinityparishblackbutt.com.au
Facebook: www.facebook.com/holytrinityparishblackbuttnorth

OFFICE HOURS

Monday:
Tuesday:
Thursday:

We recommend contacting the office via phone, email or post with your enquiries.

PARISH STAFF

Parish Administrator: Fr Sabu Adimakiyil
Lambton Presbytery: 02 4956 1953
Email: sabu.adimakiyil@mn.catholic.org.au
Assistant Priest: Fr Camillus Nwahia
Shortland Presbytery: 02 4955 9364
0469 829 125
Email: camillus.nwahia@mn.catholic.org.au
Parish Secretaries: Mrs Liza Ruitenbach
Ms Justine Atkinson
Office Assistant: Ms Johanna Soo

SCHOOLS

ST JOHN'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL LAMBTON

Acting Principal: Ms Shannon McGregor
Street Address: Dickson Street LAMBTON NSW 2299
Postal Address: PO Box 8 LAMBTON NSW 2299
Phone: 02 4952 1423
Email: admin@lambton.catholic.edu.au
Website: www.lambton.catholic.edu.au

CORPUS CHRISTI CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL WARATAH

Acting Principal: Ms Julie Mulhearn
Street Address: Platt Street WARATAH 2298
Postal Address: PO Box 63 WARATAH 2298
Phone / Fax: 02 4968 3220 / 02 4968 3833
Email: admin@waratah.catholic.edu.au
Website: www.waratah.catholic.edu.au

ST THERESE'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL NEW LAMBTON

Principal: Mr Duilio Rufo
Street Address: Burke Street NEW LAMBTON 2305
Postal Address: PO Box 321 New Lambton 2305
Phone / Fax: 02 4957 4922 / 02 4952 1637
Email: admin@newlambton.catholic.edu.au
Website: www.newlambton.catholic.edu.au

LITURGICAL CELEBRATIONS

Parish Mass Celebrations

In compliance with the [NSW Health](https://www.nsw.gov.au/health) lock down which is in effect as of 5:00PM Thursday 5 August, our church buildings are currently closed to members of the public.

You can join our 5:30PM Sunday Mass via our Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/holytrinityparishblackbuttnorth>.

Sunday Mass Celebration

Mass continues to be celebrated every Sunday at 9:30AM live streamed from Sacred Heart Cathedral Mass via <https://www.mn.catholic.org.au/places/live-stream/>. Mass can be viewed at a later time via the same link. Please share the link with family and friends and continue to pray as a spiritual community at this time.

Mass on TV

Mass for You at Home is broadcast at 6:00AM every Sunday on Channel 10 (WIN), or on Catch Up TV at 10 play.

Sunday Obligation

The general dispensation from the obligation to attend Sunday Mass previously given to the lay members of the Diocese by the Bishop is withdrawn. HOWEVER, the obligation only applies when it is possible for it to be complied with, a situation that presently is not possible. Those who are still unable to attend are encouraged to keep Sunday holy through the use of the resources still available on the [Diocese website](https://www.mn.catholic.org.au/news-events/covid-19-update) and at <http://www.mn.catholic.org.au/news-events/covid-19-update>.

Keeping the Sunday Holy and What we can do

<https://www.mn.catholic.org.au/media/4197/keeping-sunday-holy-what-can-we-do.pdf>

Pastoral Visitation

If you would like a priest to visit your home, please enquire by phone or email at the Parish Office. If you know someone who would like a visit, please encourage them to contact us.

Mass Intentions

Mass Intentions are available for anyone upon request. Simply contact the parish secretaries with your intentions. If you have names of sick, deceased or anniversaries for the bulletin, and Mass, these need to be in relatively early to make the bulletin. Remember you need the person's or family's permission for publication.

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS

Twenty-Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

First Reading: Is 50:5-9
Responsorial Psalm: Ps 114:1-6. 8-9. R. v.9
Second Reading: Jas 2:14-18
Gospel Acclamation: Gal 6:14
Gospel: Mk 8:27-35

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

Ps 118:137, 124

You are just, O Lord, and your judgement is right;
treat your servant in accord with your merciful love.

FIRST READING

Is 35:4-7

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

Then the ears of the deaf shall be opened and the tongues of the dumb speak.

Say to all faint hearts,
'Courage! Do not be afraid.

'Look, your God is coming,
vengeance is coming,
the retribution of God;
he is coming to save you.'

Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened,
the ears of the deaf unsealed,
then the lame shall leap like a deer
and the tongues of the dumb sing for joy;

for water gushes in the desert,
streams in the wasteland,
the scorched earth becomes a lake,
the parched land springs of water.

The Word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 145:7-10. R. v.1

(R.) Praise the Lord, my soul!

1. It is the Lord who keeps faith for ever,
who is just to those who are oppressed.
It is he who gives bread to the hungry,
the Lord, who sets prisoners free. (R.)

2. It is the Lord who gives sight to the blind,
who raises up those who are bound down,
the Lord who loves the just,
the Lord, who protects the stranger. (R.)

3. The Lord upholds the widow and orphan,
but thwarts the path of the wicked.
The Lord will reign for ever,
Zion's God, from age to age. (R.)



SECOND READING

Jas 2:1-5

A reading from the letter of St James

Has not God chosen the poor of the world to inherit the kingdom?

My brothers, do not try to combine faith in Jesus Christ, our glorified Lord, with the making of distinctions between classes of people. Now suppose a man comes into your synagogue, beautifully dressed and with a gold ring on, and at the same time a poor man comes in, in shabby clothes, and you take notice of the well-dressed man, and say, 'Come this way to the best seats'; then you tell the poor man, 'Stand over there' or 'You can sit on the floor by my foot-rest.' Can't you see that you have used two different standards in your mind, and turned yourselves into judges, and corrupt judges at that?

Listen, my dear brothers: it was those who are poor according to the world that God chose, to be rich in faith and to be the heirs to the kingdom which he promised to those who love him.

The Word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

cf. Mt 4:23

Alleluia, alleluia!

Jesus preached the Good News of the kingdom and healed all who were sick.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Mk 7:31-37

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark

He makes the deaf hear and the dumb speak.

Returning from the district of Tyre, Jesus went by way of Sidon towards the sea of Galilee, right through the Decapolis region. And they brought him a deaf man who had an impediment in his speech; and they asked him to lay his hand on him. He took him aside in private, away from the crowd, put his fingers into the man's ears and touched his tongue with spittle. Then looking up to heaven he sighed; and he said to him, 'Ephphatha,' that is, 'Be opened.' And his ears were opened, and the ligament of his tongue was loosened and he spoke clearly. And Jesus ordered them to tell no one about it, but the more he insisted, the more widely they published it. Their admiration was unbounded. 'He has done all things well,' they said 'he makes the deaf hear and the dumb speak.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

Cf. Ps 41:2-3

Like the deer that yearns for running streams,
so my soul is yearning for you, my God;
my soul is thirsting for God, the living God.

HOMILY

By Richard Leonard

I read the other day a true story about a baby girl who was seriously ill in a Neonatal ICU. The paediatric specialist said there was very little hope. The baby's five-year-old brother, Michael, kept begging his parents to let him see his sister. 'I want to sing to her', he kept saying. Children were not allowed in the ICU, but Michael's mother eventually insisted that he be able to see his sister.

When he got to the humidicrib he sang: 'You are my sunshine, my only sunshine, you make me happy when skies are grey'. The nurse reported that as Michael sang, the baby's pulse rate began to calm down and become steady. 'Keep on singing, Michael', encouraged his mother with tears in her eyes. 'You never know, dear, how much I love you. Please don't take my sunshine away.' The baby recovered and left the hospital three weeks later.

I am not pretending for a moment that Michael's song healed his sister, but we should never underestimate the power of human support and love. It helps us to be healed.

The Gospel story of the healing of the deaf mute is striking because it is one of the few stories where the crowd makes the request of healing from Jesus. This is understandable given that the man cannot speak for himself, but the scene, as Mark writes it, is very touching. Mark tells us that the crowd brought the man to Jesus. 'They' beg Jesus to heal him, 'they' are ordered not to tell anyone about the miracle, but 'they' go straight out and tell everyone about it.

What happens there is what happens here every Sunday. Coming to Mass is not a private affair. It is not my Mass, my prayer, my Church. The pronouns we use reveal a lot about

our attitudes. It's our Eucharist, our prayer and our Church. Within the Mass there are opportunities for private prayer, but Eucharist is, essentially, an action of the assembled community. In our own way we bring the deaf and the mute to Jesus each time we gather. This is what the Prayers of the Faithful are all about. This is why they are so important.

When we visit another parish we can tell a lot about it by the care with which the intercessions are composed and compiled. If they only attend to the needs of the parish and never with the wider Church or the world, if they focus on the needs of the Catholic world and never with the plight of those in crisis, who may not share our faith or may hold to another or no faith, it says so much.

The Church has always believed in the power of intercessory prayer. Not that God needs to be reminded what our world needs. God knows that better than we know it. But intercessory prayer sorts our priorities and establishes who has a claim on our affections and concerns. It also enables others to know that we stand in solidarity with them.

And miracles still happen when we are one with those for whom we hope and pray. Sometimes the first miracle that occurs is that we notice the needs of some group beyond our immediate circle. Their suffering moves us and we choose to help them.

Let's pray in this Eucharist that Christ removes our blindness, opens our ears and loosens our tongues so that we speak up for those who are most in need of a healing word that brings them justice and peace.

© Richard Leonard SJ

REFLECTION

By Dianne Bergant

Jesus opens our eyes to the reality of God's presence in our midst, in the goodness of people and in the tenderness of life, even in its vulnerability. He opens our ears to hear the word of God spoken to us by others, revealed to us through the created world.

There is an eschatological dimension to being open to the word of God, because we are opened to hear something from the future. The prophets always speak about this future in the present tense. They see it happening already. Isaiah proclaims, 'Here is your God!' and the world is transformed. Jesus says 'Be open.' The good news always opens us to future possibilities, to personal and communal transformation, to a new creation. With the word of God, the future invades our present.

Although the eschatological future is already present to us, it is only unfolding, it has not yet opened completely. We still judge each other by appearances. We still miss the presence of God in the poor and the dispossessed, in those who suffer from disease or war or loneliness. We still shun those of another race, or those who have been shaped by another culture, or those who worship God in a different way.

Although the eschatological future is already present, we have not yet put aside all of the biases of the past, we have not yet been fully transformed. But God has spoken, God has come to save us. God is trustworthy; God keeps faith forever. © Dianne Bergant CSA



REFLECTION FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

By Lisa-Marie Calderone-Stewart

People are amazed that Jesus can cure deafness. They are probably also amazed that Jesus would even be interested in giving any attention to a person who cannot hear. In his culture it was a popular belief that if you were deaf or blind or disabled in any way, it was because of a sin – your own sin or the sin of your parents. Anyone with such a condition was considered a social outcast, but Jesus is modelling a new type of behaviour. He reaches out to anyone and everyone – even the ones most people are afraid to touch or talk to.

What makes someone a social outcast in your school? (Please do not name any names, but discuss the traits or criteria that might be used to decide why a person might be given such a status.)

Who decides who the social outcasts are? Is there complete agreement, or do different people have different ideas of who is acceptable and who is not acceptable? Does everyone know their own status? Is everyone aware that they are cast as acceptable or not acceptable? If so, how do they know?

What would Jesus say about the social games that are played out by young people in their schools and in their circles of friends? What advice would Jesus give you? Are you willing to follow it? Why or why not?

Do you have any friends or relatives who are deaf? Do you know any sign language? If you yourself are deaf, what is it like not hearing in a world built for those who can hear?

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◆ MINISTRIES ◆

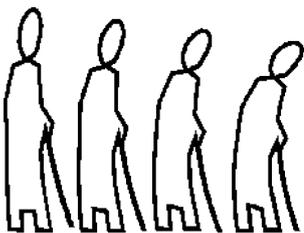
ROSTERS	LAMBTON	WARATAH	NEW LAMBTON	WARATAH
4/5 September 2021	Saturday 5:00PM	Sunday 7:30AM	Sunday 9:15AM	Sunday 5:30PM
Flowers / Sacristy				
Liturgical Assistant	Volunteer ministries are postponed. Please note that the ministries listed below are subject to change if the current restrictions are extended.			
Greeters				
Musician				
Readers				
Prayer of the Faithful				
Procession of the Gifts				
Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion				
11/12 September 2021	Saturday 5:00PM	Sunday 7:30AM	Sunday 9:15AM	Sunday 5:30PM
Flowers / Sacristy	Diana Dolan	Teleisia Lolohea	Gwen Fuge	
Liturgical Assistant	Joe Weber	Tim O'Brien	Stephen & Alison Morris	Graehame Alexander
Greeters	Volunteer ministry postponed	Volunteer ministry postponed	Volunteer ministry postponed	Volunteer ministry postponed
Musician	Naomi Smith Suzanne Ryan	Judy Nolan	Bronwyn Melville & United in Song	Mark Grimer
Readers	Pam Howland	Paul Rosser	Noel Franks	Malia Piccione
Prayer of the Faithful	Pam Howland	Paul Rosser	Noel Franks	Malia Piccione
Procession of the Gifts	Volunteer ministry postponed	Volunteer ministry postponed	Volunteer ministry postponed	Volunteer ministry postponed
Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion	Volunteer ministry postponed	Volunteer ministry postponed	Volunteer ministry postponed	Volunteer ministry postponed
ROSTER CONTACTS	Ann Gunn M 0407 571 197	Elizabeth Buckles P 02 4967 4363	Joy Loas 02 4952 2664	Volunteer needed

A VOCATION VIEW

Has not God chosen the poor of the world to inherit the kingdom?

Chosen to be rich in faith. So take heart, be

not afraid, consider your part in God's Kingdom. For more information regarding Vocations phone 02 4979 1112 or email vocations@mn.catholic.org.au.



*The Lord
Raises Up
Those
That Are
Bowed Down*

SAINTS

Saint Peter Claver, Priest

St Peter Claver was born in Spain in 1581 AD. After studying at the University of Barcelona, he became a Jesuit at the age of 20. St Peter was influenced by St Alphonsus Rodriguez to become a missionary in the Americas, where he ministered both physically and spiritually to the African slaves. He spent the next 40 years working for the humane treatment of slaves on plantations, and he reportedly converted some 300,000 African slaves to Christianity. Within the Spanish community living in America, St Peter organised charitable societies, similar to those organised by St Vincent de Paul across Europe. He said of the slaves, "We must speak to them with our hands by giving, before we try to speak to them with our lips."



SAFEGUARDING

Our Children and Vulnerable Adults: The Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle has an abiding commitment to promote the safety, welfare and wellbeing of children and vulnerable adults. If you have any concerns for a child or vulnerable adult please contact the Office of Safeguarding: P 02 4979 1390 or E childprotection@mn.catholic.org.au or visit their website for further information www.officeofsafeguarding.org.au.

Our Parish Promotors of the Office of Safeguarding are Teleisia Lolohea and Paul Rosser.

Safeguarding Standards: During 2021 the Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle has been actively implementing the National Catholic Safeguarding Standards and the NSW Child Safe Standards and preparing for an external audit of these standards. The Diocese is expected to proceed with the external audit in 2022 and so will continue the implementation processes for these Standards.

FEAST DAYS

- 8 Sep: The Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary
- 14 Sep: The Exaltation of the Holy Cross
- 21 Sep: Saint Matthew, Apostle and Evangelist
- 29 Sep: Saints Michael, Gabriel and Raphael, Archangels
- 18 Oct: Saint Luke, Evangelist
- 28 Oct: Saints Simon and Jude, Apostles
- 1 Nov: All Saints
- 2 Nov: The Commemoration of all the Faithful Departed
- 9 Nov: The Dedication of the Latern Basilica
- 21 Nov: Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe
- 30 Nov: Saint Andrew, Apostle
- 8 Dec: The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

◆ PRAYERS ◆

PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL

Light a Candle

Light a candle to symbolize the Light of Christ and Light of the World.



Introduction: Brothers and sisters, the Lord raises up those who are bowed down. Let us bring our needs before the God of mercy.

1. That pastors who minister to God's people will persevere in times of difficulty. Let us pray to the Lord.
2. That nations will promote fairness and justice for all, regardless of difference or class. Let us pray to the Lord.
3. That families struggling under the weight of poverty and despair will be given new hope. Let us pray to the Lord.
4. That those who are blinded by prejudice and hatred will treat people with respect and dignity. Let us pray to the Lord.
5. That the sick will be touched by Christ's healing power. Let us pray to the Lord.
6. That we who are gathered will reach out to those in our community who feel rejected or abandoned. Let us pray to the Lord.
7. That our Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle be guarded and guided by the goodness of God as we work together to build the Kingdom of God. Let us pray to the Lord.
8. That the dead who were baptised in Christ will inherit the kingdom promised to them. Let us pray to the Lord.

Conclusion: Faithful God, you have chosen the poor and the lowly to be heirs of your kingdom. Hear our prayers and open our eyes to your presence that we may be instruments of your kindness and mercy to all people. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

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WE REMEMBER

Please Pray for

Sick: Joy Hatherall, Soane Tupou, Malia Piccione, Julie Cartwright, Cheryl Corbett, Giuseppi Piccione, Milan Parker, Sharon Arkinstall, Robert Watson, Donna Collins, Bernadette Coffey, Michael Payne, Fred Stanwell, Paul Mowbray, Shelley Smith, Dorothy and Jessica.

Recently Deceased: Anne Channells, Therese Marie Doenau, Sr Bernadette Mills rsm, Katherine Denny, Ronald Joseph Taylor, Helen Humphry.

Anniversaries: Gladys Dobosz, Michael Donnelley, Peter Torpey, Frances Williams, Margaret Rebecca Agnew, Fr Martin Kehoe, Fr Rene Cusse, Fr Edward Troy, Fr James O'Brien, Fr James O'Donnell, Fr John Francis Kelly, Fr Peter Julian Brock.

Eternal rest grant to them, O Lord, and may light perpetual shine upon them. + May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed rest in peace. Amen

"Intentions" for publication need to be submitted by email or phone by midday Monday Reminder that you need the person or family's permission to enable us to publish names.

A FATHERS DAY PRAYER

God our Father,
We give you thanks and praise for fathers young and old.

We pray for young fathers, newly embracing their vocation;
May they find courage and perseverance to balance work, family and faith in joy and sacrifice.

We pray for our own Fathers around the world whose children are lost or suffering;
May they know that the God of compassion walks with them in their sorrow.

We pray for men who are not fathers but still mentor and guide us with fatherly love and advice.

We remember fathers, grandfather, and great grandfathers who are no longer with us but who live forever in our memory and nourish us with their love.

Amen

Catholic Prayers: <http://lordcalls.com/about>

◆ SACRAMENTS ◆

SACRAMENTS IN HOLY TRINITY PARISH

Sacramental Program: This year's program has been completed.

Anointing and Viaticum: Pastoral Care of the Sick and Dying continues with appropriate care and precautions being observed. Visits to the sick and dying, and the celebration of Viaticum, are allowable. Communal celebrations of the Anointing of the Sick are not to take place, either in parishes or other places.

Baptism: The celebration of the Sacrament of Baptism is not available under the current Public Health Order. When available, baptism is only to be celebrated by the pouring of water which needs to be changed between each baptism. Baptism by immersion is not celebrated in the current circumstances.

Currently, limited number of Baptisms can take place on the second, third, and fourth Saturdays of the month and are held between St John the Evangelist Lambton, Corpus Christi Waratah, and St Therese's New Lambton. Bookings are made through the Parish Office.

Funerals: A maximum of ten (10) people can attend a funeral or memorial service or gathering afterwards. In addition to the 10 people attending there may also be:

- a person conducting the service
- other people who are necessary for the preparation and conduct of the service.

Liturgical adaptations are required in the current circumstances.

Marriage Bookings: The celebration of weddings is not possible under the current Public Health Order.

Penance: To make enquiries regarding celebration of the First Rite of Reconciliation, please contact the Lambton Presbytery or the Parish Office.

The celebration of the Second Rites of Reconciliation is not possible under the current Public Health Order.

The Third Rite is not permitted.

Communion Ministry to the Sick: Taking Communion to the Sick is currently limited to the priests.

◆ NOTICES ◆

PARISH NEWS

Parish Office: Our office is currently closed in compliance with the NSW lockdown that remains in effect. Please do feel free to contact us by phone or email during normal office hours for all your enquiries, or by post any time.

Planned Giving: We appreciate that many of you wish to continue giving during this time. There are electronic options you may like to consider, including www.mn.catholic.org.au/about/parishdiocesan-payments/ to make a one-off payment, remembering to include your envelope number if you have one. Alternatively, you may like to wait until we can gather again.

Weekly Bulletin: The bulletin is available via email subscription triparish@mn.catholic.org.au. Paper copies can be collected at three (3) locations – Lambton Church veranda, Waratah Presbytery veranda, and New Lambton Parish House front door.

PARISH GROUPS, TEAMS AND COUNCILS

Parish Finance Council: Parish Finance Council meets monthly on the first Thursday of the month. Next date to be confirmed.

Parish Pastoral Council: The Parish Pastoral Council meets bimonthly on the fourth Tuesday of the month. A date for the next meeting is yet to be confirmed.

Centenary Event Planning Committee: These meetings are held over until restrictions have been lifted.

Caring Group: The Caring Group Committee meets bimonthly at 10:00AM on the first Friday at Parish House New Lambton. Next meeting is scheduled for Friday 1 October 2021 and is yet to be confirmed.

Caring Group – Exercises: Sessions are currently postponed. Contact Coral on 02 4957 5338 or Barbara on 0400 537 073.

Ladies Social and Craft Group: The group will be discontinued until further notice.

St Vincent de Paul: This week's meetings are postponed.

DIOCESE NEWS

National Child Protection Week: National Child Protection Week begins this Sunday from 5 to 11 September. This year's theme is *Every child, in every community, needs a fair go*. To treat all of Australia's children fairly, we need to make sure every family and community has what kids need to thrive and be healthy. As a diocese, our goal when it comes to child protection is to always recognise and uphold the dignity and rights of all children and vulnerable adults, in-line with the Catholic Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle's abiding commitment to their safety, welfare, and wellbeing. There are several initiatives planned for our school students during this week. For details visit <https://mnnews.today/catholic-schools/2021/54409-national-child-protection-week-is-coming-up-here-s-how-you-can-get-involved/?source=dio>. We also encourage the broader community to visit officeofsafeguarding.org.au/national-child-protection-week and use the resources available to support your children to stay safe.

Perpetual Day of Remembrance Sunday: Next Sunday will be Perpetual Day of Remembrance Sunday. It is a time to shine a light of solidarity, prayer, and commitment to change, and to stand with our brothers and sisters who are suffering and to shine the light of Christ in our Church and neighbourhoods.

Praying the Gospels: Join in each Wednesday 5:00PM – 5:45PM. Zoom link: <https://mncatholic.zoom.us/j/96144217758>. Password: pray. For information contact: rose.mcallister@mn.catholic.org.au.

Diocesan Synod: Session Three of the Diocesan Synod (Implementation) will be held Saturday 20 November. Visit <https://www.domnsynod.com.au>.

Join our Diocesan Councils: Becoming a Council volunteer is a wonderful opportunity to meet fellow members who share your interests, and to make a difference in an area you are passionate about! Pastoral Ministries are seeking expressions of interest for various Diocesan Councils. To find a Council that interests you, visit <https://www.mnnews.today/media/2860522/32429-pm-diocesan-council-info-pack-a4-flyer-web.pdf>. For an Expression of Interest form click [here](#) or call Jenny on 02 4979 1334 or email jenny.harris@mn.catholic.org.au.

Australian Catholic Men's Gathering: The Australian Catholic Men's Gathering is a free event. All the pre-recorded events can be downloaded and watched individually or as a small group.

Our Diocese will be hosting four (4) online meetings to watch and discuss the Men's Gathering sessions. These sessions will be an opportunity to engage with the material and with other men, while also being an opportunity to explore men's ministry in our diocese and our local communities. These online meetings will take place on Wednesday 8, 15, 22, 29 September and each session will run from 7:30PM to 8:30PM.

If you would like to be a part of our Diocesan online gatherings, or if you would like to explore how you could run the sessions in your own local community, please email brendon.mannxx@mn.catholic.org.au, or for more information, visit www.catholicmensgathering.com.au.

PLENARY COUNCIL

Plenary Council Conversations: In preparation for the upcoming First Assembly of the Fifth Plenary Council our Diocesan Plenary Council members are seeking input from our diocesan community. It's not too late to join in the conversation, each Thursday in September, 7:00PM to 8:30PM via Zoom. Visit [Online Registration](#) to register for all or one of the conversations: Thursday 9/9 – Prayer; Thursday 16/9 – Structures Thursday 23/9 – Governance; Thursday 30/9 – Institutions

Fan the Flame Towards Plenary Assembly One October 2021: 'He makes the deaf hear and the dumb speak.' *Mark 7:31-37*

The Church hears the cries of the poor and the groans of the earth. It seeks to stand in solidarity with the poor and the marginalised, and to exercise good stewardship of the fragile ecosystems that support life on earth.

(Australian Catholic Social Justice Council, "A New Earth: The Environmental Challenge. Social Justice Statement 2002", accessed 23 April 2021, <https://socialjustice.catholic.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2019/11/Social-Justice-Statement-2002.pdf>, 10.)

www.plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au/fanthefflame/

OTHER NEWS

Caritas Appeal Middle East Region: As the situations in Afghanistan and Lebanon deteriorate, you can help support families caught up in the crises. In Afghanistan people have been forced from their homes, with half of the population in urgent need of food, water, shelter, and protection. In Lebanon the country is running out of power, water, fuel, medicine and food. Even hospitals are facing massive fuel shortages and will soon have to turn off the lights. Please donate to Caritas Australia so that we can respond to these crises and others worldwide. To provide much needed support visit www.caritas.org.au/lebanon or www.caritas.org.au/afghanistan or call 1800 024 413 toll free.

Caritas Appeal Haiti: Haiti has been devastated by earthquake. Over 1,400 people have died, and thousands more left injured. Homes, churches and schools have been damaged in the quake. Reports indicate that more than 30,000 families are now homeless. The country also continues to grapple with COVID-19, poverty, and ongoing political instability and violence. There is immediate and urgent need for food, water, shelter, hygiene kits and first aid on the ground. To provide much needed support visit Caritas Australia's Emergency Response Appeal at www.caritas.org.au or call 1800 024 413 toll free.

SENIOR WORDSEARCH

God gives to all who love him

Is 35:4-7a
Ps 146:6d-7, 7c-9a, 9bcd-10, R, v.1b
Jas 2:1-5
Mk 7:31-37

C R M I M H S J R E T T E B A F O
Z L G O O D Y K X Z O F S V J A P
O C I F F C J Y T C G V K V A E I
N P B A Z S D E C A P O L I S D U
C R I E M Z P A T F W G N O J H D
T Q X S G A F N I Y H T X I B G Q
T B X Q K O Z N L B V R C P C D G
B U E A M L G E R L B E S T I P D
N P U W V E X T D I Y L Z D W D G
N S Q U R K P R U N R K K C C B D
G N I S B I I M H D N W V A L C E
T A S L T J I N W N L A P B Q T S
F E L M E I S J G R N M Q V L F E
T D J K Q N P Y G D D N D D A C R
H L L O O O T J V T O I Y T B M T
P S T U A X O M Z G Z M W V G U D
V H B S J Q H A H T A F F E J O T

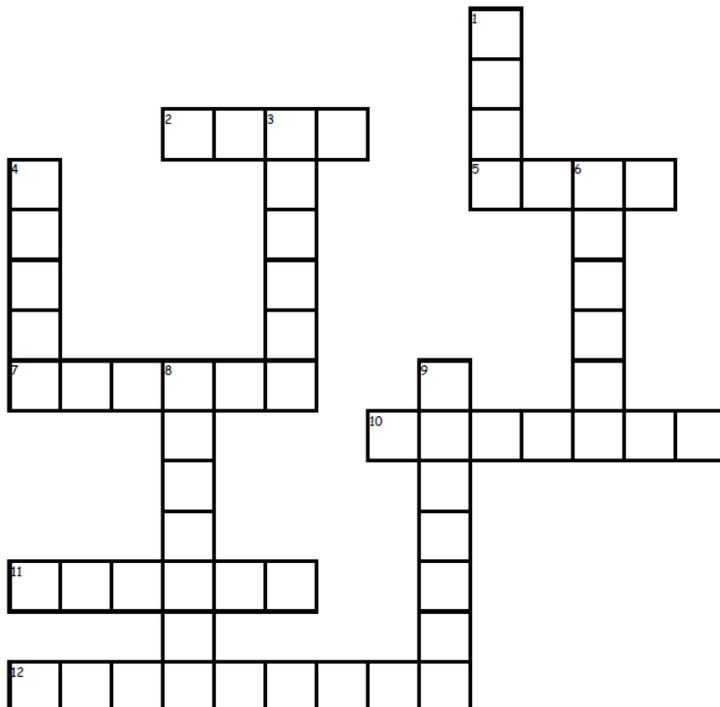
Try to find these words:

- amazed
- best
- better
- blind
- deaf
- Decapolis
- desert
- Effatha
- fingers
- good
- kingdom
- silent

CROSSWORD

God gives to all who love him

Is 35:4-7a
Ps 146:6d-7, 7c-9a, 9bcd-10, R, v.1b
Jas 2:1-5
Mk 7:31-37



Across

- 2: the opposite of worst
- 5: a man who was _____ was brought to Jesus for healing
- 7: a hot and sandy place
- 10: God has promised poor people a share in this
- 11: Jesus tells us that we should not treat some people _____ than others
- 12: Jesus went to this land and made a deaf man hear

Down

- 1: the people talked about Jesus, saying 'Everything he does is _____!'
- 3: if something is making no noise it is _____
- 4: someone who can't see is _____
- 6: the people felt this way after Jesus made the deaf man hear
- 8: Jesus said this word, which means 'open up'
- 9: to heal the deaf man, Jesus put his _____ in the man's ears

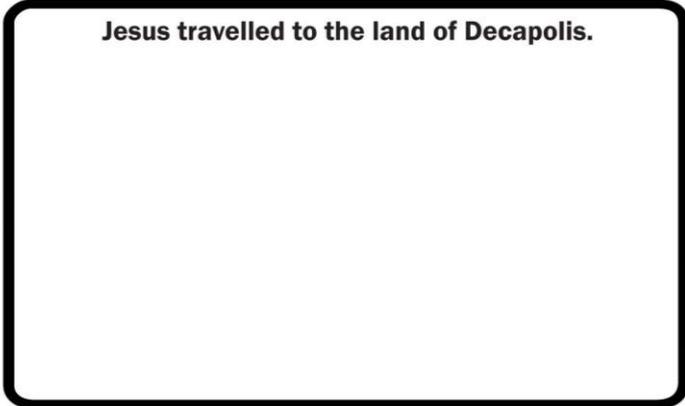
Jesus cures a man who cannot hear or speak



23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year B

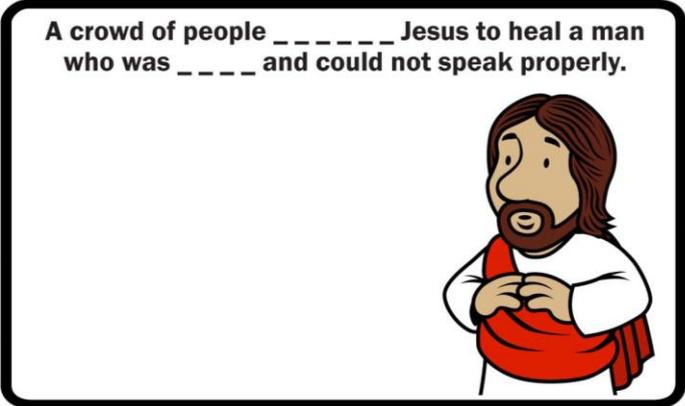
Finish the story of Jesus healing the deaf man by adding the missing words and pictures.

Jesus travelled to the land of Decapolis.



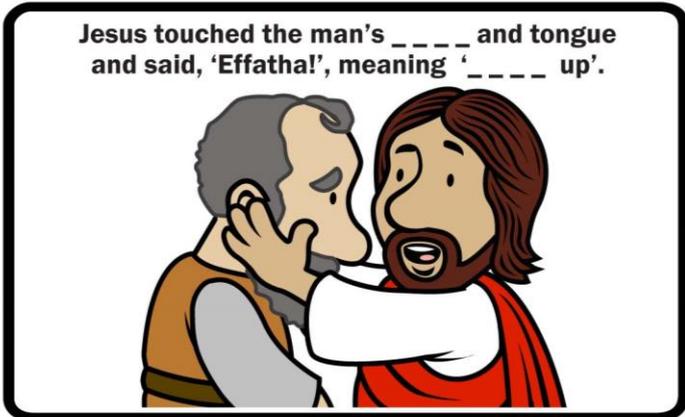
Draw Jesus walking along the road

A crowd of people _____ Jesus to heal a man who was _____ and could not speak properly.

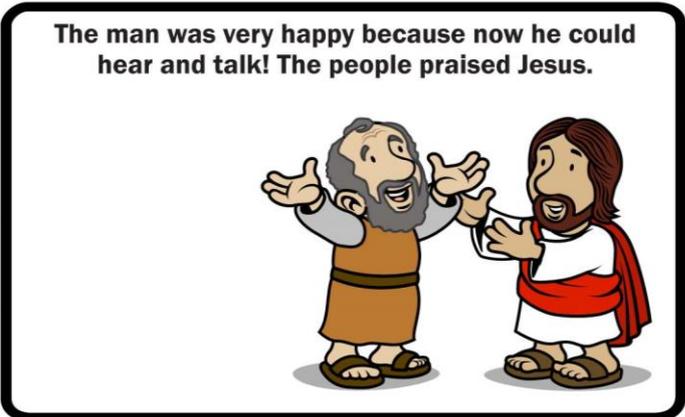


Draw the deaf man

Jesus touched the man's _____ and tongue and said, 'Effatha!', meaning '_____ up'.



The man was very happy because now he could hear and talk! The people praised Jesus.



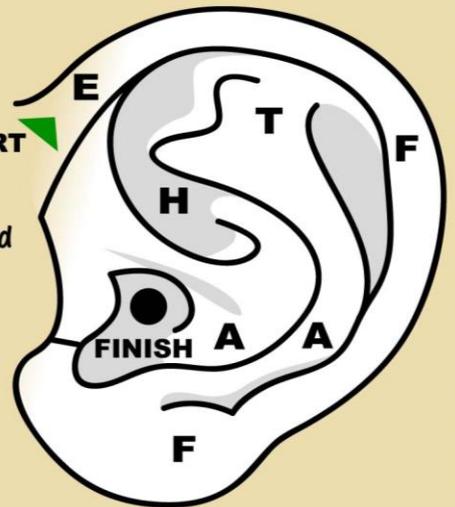
Draw the people celebrating and praising Jesus



Jesus did many good things, such as healing people and helping those in need. What are some good things you can do for others?

START

Follow the path into the ear to find out what Jesus said to the deaf man. Write down each letter in sequence as you pass them.



' _____ !'