**Bulletin Notices:**

**New updates**

1. **Free Swansea Kids Holiday Program**
You are invited to this holiday’s fun program for primary students!
The day will give participants the chance to spend time with their friends or make new friends, joining in our Olympic themed day. Sessions are open to all children in primary school and will include team games, challenges, craft, bible stories, music and delicious food, all for free!

**When:** Tuesday 16th July
**Where:** St Patrick’s Hall, Northcote Ave, Swansea
**Time:** 10am-2pm

Registrations are essential – please register using the QR code
or contact 0417 773 444 by Friday 12th July.
2. **aMeN caMiNo – Seasons of Creation Weekend Retreat**Join us for an aMeN caMiNo weekend experience during this year’s Season of Creation at the beautiful Myall Coast. This caMiNo is suitable for both beginners and experienced walkers. It offers a one- or two-day experience on September 7th and 8th.

**For more information visit our website**: [mn.catholic.org.au/church-mission/catholic-life/faith-formation/amen-camino](https://aus01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.mn.catholic.org.au%2Fchurch-mission%2Fcatholic-life%2Ffaith-formation%2Famen-camino%2F&data=05%7C02%7CBrooke.Cross%40mn.catholic.org.au%7C70793622af934496a77508dc998ac904%7Ce75462c772464f49b60e47a498eea9d6%7C0%7C0%7C638554068560298121%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=TktYbt9YY2WBn60WqSrcHH4oOYpa35hqOl%2F0KltLKs0%3D&reserved=0)
3. **aMeN caMiNo Community Walk**We invite you to sample the aMeN caMiNo experience through this Community Walk.

When: Saturday 17th August 2024.
Time: 8am-11am
Where: Walk begins at Merewether.

**Register your Interest here:**[https://forms.office.com/r/w3tX1w69t3](https://aus01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fforms.office.com%2Fr%2Fw3tX1w69t3&data=05%7C02%7CBrooke.Cross%40mn.catholic.org.au%7C70793622af934496a77508dc998ac904%7Ce75462c772464f49b60e47a498eea9d6%7C0%7C0%7C638554068560310669%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=%2FKc70lWKtAYZ5zAFKSP58qZIZCIIQzAETN3n45q%2BE1M%3D&reserved=0)

**Opportunities included in previous notices**

1. **Growth Formation Retreat – 23 – 25 August 2024**

Jesus, Light of the World Communities will be hosting a retreat in August. Over two nights and three days from 23 to 25 August, the retreat will include a Celebration of the Holy Eucharist, workshops, discussions and an hour of empowerment. It’s being hosted at the Collaroy Centre, accommodation is available from $360 per twin share or $450 for single. Call Helen on 0433 455 114 for more information or to book.

1. **NAIDOC Week Community Event – Monday 8 July, 9am to 3pm**

During NAIDOC Week (7 – 14 July) the Catholic Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle and CatholicCare Social Services Hunter-Manning will be participating in a community event in Newcastle.

Hosted by Awabakal Ltd, the event starts at Civic Park, with a flag raising at 9 am before a united procession to Foreshore Park.

The Diocese and CatholicCare are sponsors of this event and will provide information and activities in a marquee, along with other community groups, to engage with and share the wealth of programs and offerings of the diocese with the local community.

1. **NAIDOC Week Ecumenical Prayer Service**

Coinciding with National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Sunday, all are welcome to attend this year’s NAIDOC Week 2024 Ecumenical Prayer Service.

The theme this year is “Keep the Fire Burning. Blak, Loud and Proud!”

Celebrate and honour the rich cultural heritage and contributions of our First Nations people:

Venue: Christ Church Anglican Cathedral, Church Street, Newcastle

Time: 1:45pm for 2pm

Date: Sunday 7 July 2024

All Welcome

1. **Clinical Pastoral Education – Introductory Course July 2024**

This course will be held at Mackillop Parish Centre, Milson Street, Charlestown from 9.00am to 4.00pm, commencing Monday 15 July.

The course is conducted over six consecutive Mondays concluding on 19 August.

Cost: $500

For further information contact Fr. Roger Zohrab.Phone: 0408 151 481

Email: rzohrab@bigpond.com OR roger.zohrab@health.nsw.gov.au

1. **A Reflection Day with Fr Kevin Dance CP – Tuesday 9 July 2024**

All are invited to a day of reflection and Mass in Jesus, the Good Shepherd Parish, at Belmont Church Hall - 40 Ernest Street Belmont. On-site parking is available.

Arrive from 8.30am to sign in and enjoy a cuppa. Starts at 9am and finishes at 4.30pm.

Cost is by donation. Enquiries and registrations to Jan on 0438 252 657

or Email elmparish@mn.catholic.org.au RSVP 2/7/2024. BYO lunch. Morning tea provided.

1. **Stay up-to-date with Diocesan Resource Centre events**

The Diocesan Resource Centre and Library were officially opened and blessed by Bishop Michael Kennedy at the end of May. The library is open three days a week and offers several events each month. Find out what is on offer by regularly checking the Catholic Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle website: [www.mn.catholic.org.au/places/library](http://www.mn.catholic.org.au/places/library/)

The opening hours are as follows:

Mondays and Fridays – 10am to 6pm

Saturday – 10am to 2pm

1. **Can you help CatholicCare Social Services Hunter-Manning make a difference?**

A single mum, three couples from Afghanistan, a university student, and dozens of school students – these are just a few of the people CatholicCare Social Services Hunter-Manning has supported in the last couple of months.

As a not-for-profit organisation, we can’t do this work without the generosity of our community. Can you help us to support more?

Donate to our 2024 Make a Difference appeal now: [www.mycause.com.au/page/345965/make-a-difference](http://www.mycause.com.au/page/345965/make-a-difference)

1. **Christian Formation Course**

**Expressions of Interest for 2024/2025 Christian Formation Course are now open.**

Are you wanting to know more about Christianity and develop a deeper understanding of the Catholic Church? The Christian Formation Course (CFC) is a learning experience that allows participants to explore the foundational elements of the Catholic Faith Tradition. This one-year course introduces participants to scripture, theology, church history, sacramental life and liturgy.

* The Course runs across twelve (12) months and comprises eight (8) units
* All who complete the Course are awarded a diocesan Certificate in Christian Formation

By engaging in the course, it is hoped participants will:

* become more confident in understanding the Catholic faith
* grow in their capacity to reflect on their life’s journey
* realise that Christian faith is nurtured in community
* be affirmed in their gifts for participating in the life of the faith community
* grow in awareness of what it means to be a responsive member of the faith community

Commencing on Tuesday 23 July, no prerequisite formation or qualification is required to enrol. To find out more, go to [www.mn.catholic.org.au/church-mission/catholic-life/faith-formation/christian-formation-course](http://www.mn.catholic.org.au/church-mission/catholic-life/faith-formation/christian-formation-course/)

**Ongoing opportunities**

1. Live stream Mass 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
* [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)