**Bulletin Notices:**

**New updates**

1. **Diocesan Pilgrimage 2025**

Join us on pilgrimage this Jubilee Year with Bishop Michael Kennedy as we visit the biblical sites and spiritual heights of Greece, Turkey and Italy from 25 September -12 October.

Scan the QR code or visit [www.mn.catholic.org.au](https://aus01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.mn.catholic.org.au%2F&data=05%7C02%7CElizabeth.Symington%40mn.catholic.org.au%7C1f452f57b92c46887dd608dd4f9915f9%7Ce75462c772464f49b60e47a498eea9d6%7C0%7C0%7C638754241114230545%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJFbXB0eU1hcGkiOnRydWUsIlYiOiIwLjAuMDAwMCIsIlAiOiJXaW4zMiIsIkFOIjoiTWFpbCIsIldUIjoyfQ%3D%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=8tKjREL%2BG9PLMQ3O2CYlnjur1OLbT0yffWY91EVkK5g%3D&reserved=0) and click the *2025 Jubilee Year Information* tile for more information, the application form, and costings.



1. **Diocesan Resource Centre March events**

Friday March 7– Formation Friday – Indulgences – 1pm

Meet with other community members via Zoom or in the Diocesan Resource Centre Library for a chance to reflect and discuss seasons, moments and mysteries of the church and our faith.

Register using QR code or email domnlibrary@mn.catholic.org.au



**Friday March 28 – Human Library – 10am**Our “Human Books” will discuss Pilgrimage, the good and bad, what they learned and how it made them feel. Showing images and answering questions, you will be immersed in Pilgrimage.
Diocesan Resource Centre Library – 12 Tudor Street – Newcastle West (Cnr Parry Street)
Register using QR code or email domnlibrary@mn.catholic.org.au



1. **Rite of Election – Sunday 9 March**

The Rite of Election on Sunday 9 March 2025 is an opportunity to welcome all catechumens who will be baptised in their parishes at the Easter Vigil [a catechumen is an unbaptised person whose search for meaning has brought them to the Catholic Church]. Please join in witness and prayerful support of those who choose to be Catholic within this Jubilee Year of Hope. It starts at 2.30pm at Sacred Heart Cathedral Newcastle West, followed by afternoon tea. RSVP for catering to E mission@mn.catholic.org.au. Enquiries to Fiona P 0408 895 951.

**Opportunities included in previous notices**

1. **Formation Films at Diocesan Resource Centre**

Join us on Saturday 1 March at 11am for our next Formation Films event at the Diocesan Resource Centre. We will be watching *Edie*.

Edie has spent 40 years trapped in a colourless life in England, tending to her controlling husband after his stroke. When he passes away and her daughter (Wendy Morgan) tries to send her to a care home, she packs an old camping bag, leaves her life behind and embarks on an adventure she never got to have - climbing the imposing Mount Suilven in Scotland. The journey to the summit will be long and difficult, but Edie is determined to prove to herself and everyone else that it’s never too late.

Lunch, coffee & tea provided. Registration: <https://forms.office.com/r/uM4Emx2xHd> or call Mary O’Connor on 0409 033 449.

1. **Art and Spirituality Days**

We will be hosting two Art and Spirituality Days in 2025 on Friday 4 April and Friday 12 September at the Kilaben Bay Community Centre (140 Wangi Road, Kilaben Bay). Participants will engage in art-making experiences that will nourish their faith.

Cost: $25. BYO lunch. Morning tea will be provided.

Registration: <https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/1235249708129>

For further information contact Rose McAllister on rose.mcallister@mn.catholic.org.au

1. **Women of the Well Events**

You are invited to join the next few gatherings of the Women of the Well. The events are designed to help you make space in your life to listen to the spirit and share your story with like-minded women.

There will be a one-day gathering on Sunday 23 February at the Corcoran Centre, Immaculate Conception Church in Morpeth. This will cost $35. A weekend retreat will be held on Friday 11 and Sunday 13 April at The Hermitage in Mittagong. This will cost $350.

For more information, visit <http://www.womenofthewell.com.au/> or call Tricia on 0417 216 917.

1. **Hunter Community Alliance – Annual Assembly**

*Mission & Evangelisation* are working to promote and support a vision for our communities to ‘seek opportunities for mission in word and deeds.’

The Hunter Community Alliance is an avenue for the people of our Diocese to engage in social justice, advocacy, and work for the common good in relationship with broader civil society. All our communities are invited to come and experience the Hunter Community Alliance Assembly. This will be an opportunity to join with many community organisations working for the common good.

**Where:** Great Hall, University Drive, Callaghan

**When:** Thursday 6 March, 6-8:30pm

**Register:** https://events.humanitix.com/hunter-community-alliance-federal-pre-election-assembly-2025

For more information, go to: <https://www.thehca.org.au> or contact mission@mn.catholic.org.au

1. **Catholic Men’s Rosary Crusade**

We are having a gathering of Catholic men for the Men’s Rosary Crusade on Saturday 1 March from 11am at St Patrick’s Church, Wallsend. We are more than a prayer group, we are here to help men struggling with faith or other issues. Contact Jason for more information on 0499 854 928.

1. **Jubilee Year Launch**

Bishop Michael invites all to celebrate the Jubilee Year with a special event on Sunday 2 March! It will start with a Diocesan pilgrimage from Nobby’s Beach at 8am to Sacred Heart Cathedral, culminating in Mass at 10am and a Festival at 11am in the Cathedral precinct grounds.

All corners of the Diocese are encouraged to get involved as we celebrate Pope Francis’ theme - Pilgrims of Hope. For more information, visit [www.mn.catholic.org.au/JubileeYear2025](http://www.mn.catholic.org.au/JubileeYear2025)

1. **Lenten Reflection – Journey of Hope**

Lent is often portrayed as a journey from one point in time to another, this time allows us to deeply reflect internally so our external actions imitate the resurrection and living God. Lent is a penitential period when we attempt to develop an awareness of sin and our need for penance and forgiveness. This journey assists us in our transformation as we move from one state to another, a state that is renewed by hope in the Paschal Mystery, so we truly understand why the risen Jesus matters.

As we enter Lent during the 2025 Jubilee Year, Pilgrims of Hope, let us use this time as an opportunity to reflect and seek forgiveness so we can experience the unlimited nature of God’s Mercy.

You are invited to use this resource to reveal the mystery of God each week through the scriptures, faith sharing, and consider how we are called to be constant companions in the journey of hope.

To access the resource, go to: <https://www.mn.catholic.org.au/media/7345/0007121-dio-2024-lenten-program-web-v2.pdf>

1. **Register Your Interest for the 2025 National Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Catholic Tri-Annual Assembly**

Every three years, the National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Catholic Council (NATSICC) hosts a National Tri-Annual Assembly. In 2025, the Catholic Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle is honoured to host this gathering on the lands of the Wonnarua people at Rydges Hunter Valley from Monday 29 September to Friday 3 October 2025.

With the theme “Pilgrims of Hope,” inspired by Pope Francis’ Jubilee Year, this Assembly promises to be a meaningful event. The success of the assembly relies heavily on the Host Diocese and our generosity and/or attendance.

Complete this form to register your interest in attending or volunteering: <https://forms.office.com/r/5XDUHy3Vrc>

Enquiries can be sent to mission@mn.catholic.org.au

**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)