



Newcastle  
Anglican  
Cursillo



Apostolic  
Action Diary  
2018





Christ has no body now on earth  
but yours,  
no hands  
but yours,  
no feet  
but yours;  
yours are the eyes  
with which he is to look  
with compassion on the world:  
yours are the feet  
with which he is  
to go about doing good;  
and yours the hands  
with which he is to bless us now.  
**Saint Teresa of Avila**

The 'action' suggestions in the diary are to encourage and inspire you to plan your Christian Action. Don't forget to check with your Priest before undertaking and parish based activities

**Make a friend  
Be a friend  
Bring that friend to Jesus**

### **7<sup>th</sup> – 13<sup>th</sup> January: Baptism of Our Lord**

#### Study

John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. Mark 1.4

#### Action

- Check any preparations that may be needed in church to begin new year
- Can you assist with the parish web site?
- Offer assistance to those involved in Baptism preparation
- Make contact with any Godchildren

#### Pray For

- Remembering William Laud' Archbishop of Canterbury, martyr (d1645) (10th), pray for all clergy who minister under difficult circumstances
- All those who were Baptised the previous year

### **14<sup>th</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup> January: Second Sunday after Epiphany**

#### Study

O Lord, you have searched me out and know me:  
you know where I sit and where I stand,  
you comprehend my thoughts long before. Psalm 139.1

#### Action

- Plan a new Bible study. Investigate new courses that we may find ways of increasing our knowledge of God this year
- Contact people you missed over Christmas
- Offer to mind children to give parents a break during the holidays

#### Pray For

- Those who work through the holidays for our safety
- Clergy beginning ministry in new parishes
- Those in caring roles

### **21<sup>st</sup> – 27<sup>th</sup> January: Third Sunday after Epiphany**

#### Study

Now after John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God, and saying, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near, repent and believe in the good news." Mark 1.14

#### Action

- Can you make a contribution to the *Encourager*?
- Join in the community effort to 'Clean up Australia'
- Investigate your community activities and how your parish can be involved

#### Pray For

- Diocesan Council as they vision for the new year
- Remembering the Conversion of Paul the Apostle (25th), pray for all new Christians
- Ways to outreach to our communities

**25<sup>th</sup> January – 3<sup>rd</sup> February      **Fourth Sunday after Epiphany****

Study

They were astounded at his teaching, for he taught them as one having authority.      Mark 1.22

Action

- Write a letter of encouragement to your clergy
- Attend Bishop Peter's installation on 2nd February
- Offer assistance to a family to help children settle into school

Pray For

- Bishop Peter as he becomes the Bishop of Newcastle
- Remembering the First Anglican Service at Sydney Cove (3rd), pray for new ministries in our church
- Our education system as children return to school

**4<sup>th</sup> – 10<sup>th</sup> February      **Fifth Sunday after Epiphany****

Study

I do all this for the sake of the Gospel, so that I may share its blessings.      1 Corinthians 9.23

Action

- Is there some way to assist someone you know with cancer?
- Support a Cancer research organisation
- Encourage others to use Bible Study material

Pray For

- Those for whom other people make it difficult for them to attend worship
- Remembering the Martyrs of Japan, crucified at Nagasaki in 1597 (5th), pray for all Christians in Asian countries especially those who are persecuted for their faith
- World Cancer Day (4th) pray for victims of cancer, medical staff and researchers

**11<sup>th</sup> – 17<sup>th</sup> February      **Sixth Sunday after Epiphany****

Study

Then a cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud there came a voice, 'This is my Son, the Beloved; listen to him!'      Mark 9.7

Action

- Plan a special Lenten Bible study
- Can you support the Grandparents as Parents (GAPS) program?
- Attend Ash Wednesday Service
- Assist with Shrove Tuesday activities

Pray For

- Remembering the Holy Innocents (17th), pray for all children who die as a result of violence
- Children and grandparents involved in the GAPS program
- Eucharistic Assistants
- Those who suffer as a result of family violence

**15<sup>th</sup> – 24<sup>th</sup> February****First Sunday in Lent****Study**

Beware that no one leads you astray. Many will come in my name and say, 'I am he!' and they will lead many astray. Mark 13.6

**Action**

- Write a message of encouragement/support to a leader of an organisation in your parish
- Mothering Sunday - coming soon  
Offer to cook the cake if the job is not allocated or, offer to supply ingredients or assist with the cutting and wrapping of cake
- World Day of Social Justice (20<sup>th</sup>) is there an issue you can write to a member of Parliament about

**Pray For**

- The work of the Samaritans
- University students and Theological students as they begin their academic year
- Remembering William Grant Broughton first Bishop of Australia d.1853 (20<sup>th</sup>), pray for commitment to new visions for our diocese

**25<sup>th</sup> February – 3<sup>rd</sup> March****Second Sunday in Lent****Study**

He called the crowd with his disciples and said to them, "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves, take up their cross and follow me." Mark 8.34

**Action**

- Research your parish mission project/s and tell someone about it/them
- Make special Lenten contributions to missions

**Pray For**

- Those in the community who feel useless that they may find a purpose
- Remembering George Herbert parish Priest and Poet d.1633 (27<sup>th</sup>), pray for all those training for ministry
- Those working as mission partners

**4<sup>th</sup> – 10<sup>th</sup> March****Third Sunday in Lent****Study**

But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God. John 1.12

**Action**

- Invite someone to attend the Mothering Sunday service with you
- International Women's Day (8<sup>th</sup>) take some flowers to a neighbour
- Send a card to someone you know who is unwell

**Pray For**

- Remembering John of God, worker among the sick and poor d.1550 (8<sup>th</sup>) we pray for those who work in slum areas and refugee camps
- The mission Agencies of the church
- Those affected by the slave trade and those who work to release them

**11<sup>th</sup> – 17<sup>th</sup> March Fourth Sunday in Lent**

Study

And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, the whoever believes in him may have eternal life. John 3.14

Action

- Give a book about the true meaning of Easter to a young person

Pray For

- Those working with youth in our diocese—  
that our young people may hear and respond to God's call
- Pregnant mothers and new parents
- Remembering St Patrick (17th), pray for Christians in Ireland
- Good relations with our Roman Catholic neighbours

**15<sup>th</sup> – 24<sup>th</sup> March Fifth Sunday in Lent**

Study

In the days of his flesh, Jesus offered up prayers and supplications, with loud cries and tears, to the one who was able to save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverent submission. Hebrews 5.7

Action

- Can you assist with Palm Sunday preparations?
- Remembering Joseph, husband of the Blessed Virgin Mary prepare a meal for a new father

Pray For

- Christians in lands where practicing their Christianity is difficult
- Peace in the Middle East
- The Coptic Church and other ancient Eastern Churches
- Men as they seek their role in a changing society

**25<sup>th</sup> – 31<sup>st</sup> March Passion/ Palm Sunday**

Study

Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourself. Philippians 2.3

Action

- Attend church daily during Holy Week
- Attend the Oils Eucharist in your area
- Invite neighbours for afternoon tea and explain significance of palm crosses
- Is there someone to invite to Women Celebrating Our Faith?

Pray For

- Health professionals
- Peace in our hearts and the world
- Peacemakers and the work of the United Nations

**1<sup>st</sup> – 7<sup>th</sup> April****Easter Day****Study**

Now I would remind you, brothers and sisters, of the good news that I proclaimed to you, which you in turn received, in which also you stand, through which also you are being saved, if you hold firmly to the message that I proclaimed to you – unless you have come to believe in vain.

1 Corinthians 15.1-2

**Action**

- Hand make a small card explaining the significance of Easter eggs to go with any Easter egg you may give away
- Invite someone to your Easter Eucharist
- Offer to care for a neighbour's property if they are going away

**Pray For**

- Family safety during the holidays
- Good decision making by our local councils
- Our politicians
- Those suffering from family breakdown

**5<sup>th</sup> – 14<sup>th</sup> April****Second Sunday of Easter****Study**

Jesus said to them again, "peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." When he had said this he breathed on them and said, "Receive the Holy Spirit".  
John 20.21-22

**Action**

- Attend Lady Day service at Cathedral 9th
- Write a letter of encouragement to your local clergy
- Be a peacemaker in your parish

**Pray For**

- All pregnant women
- The work of the Mothers Union in their support of families in need

**15<sup>th</sup> – 21<sup>st</sup> April****Third Sunday of Easter****Study**

Do not love the world or the things in the world. The love of the Father is not in those who love the world, for all that is in the world – the desire of the flesh, the desire of the eyes, the pride in riches – comes not from the Father but from the world.  
1 John 2.15-16

**Action**

- Send a member of your congregation a message of appreciation
- Hand make a special card for a member of your family expressing your love
- Attend Women Celebrating Our Faith

**Pray For**

- Remembering Anselm, Archbishop of Canterbury, teacher d.1107 (21st), pray for all Christian teachers and theology lecturers and our Anglican Schools
- Women Celebrating our Faith Weekend

**22<sup>nd</sup> – 25<sup>th</sup> April Fourth Sunday of Easter**

Study

I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep.  
John 10.11

Action

- Can you make a contribution to the *Encourager*?
- Support Samaritans' Winter Appeal
- Sort your clothing for good clothes you can donate
- Can I become a Samaritans volunteer or pastoral carer?
- Light a candle for all in the peacekeeping forces

Pray For

- Remembering St Mark (25th), pray for relations between the Jewish and Christian communities
- Samaritans volunteers
- The pastoral ministries of the church
- All those who have died in wars

**29<sup>th</sup> April – 3<sup>rd</sup> May Fifth Sunday of Easter**

Study

I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinegrower. John 15.1

Action

- Make contact with a Cursillista you haven't contacted for a while
- Take a child and plant a tree explaining about the trunk and branches of a tree

Pray For

- Remembering St Phillip and St James, apostles and martyrs (1st), pray for all who still face the possibility of death for their faith
- A spirit of peace in our congregation
- Thoughtful decision making by world leaders
- International Day of Press Freedom (3rd) pray for reporters killed in the pursuit of truthful reporting
- All who work to provide our food

**6<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> May Sixth Sunday of Easter**

Study

As the Father has loved me, so I love you; abide in my love. If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. John 15.9-10

Action

- Start writing your faith journey so future generations will understand your beliefs

Pray For

- Remembering Julian of Norwich, holy woman and mystic d.1417 (8th), pray for all Mystics in the church
- A renewed Spirit of hope in our church
- Peace in our hearts



**13<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup> May      **Seventh Sunday of Easter****

Study

Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one.      John 17.11b

Action

- International Day of Families (15th) - plan a family event
- Invite a family who doesn't have a family support network nearby

Pray For

- Family unity
- The wider church family
- The Men's Weekend at Tahlee

**20<sup>th</sup> – 26<sup>th</sup> May      **Pentecost****

Study

If you love me, you will keep my commandments. And I will ask the Father and he will give you another Advocate to be with you for ever.

John 14.15-16

Action

- Attend M47 and W47 Commissioning
- Assist with the decoration of the church
- Wear red and explain to a neighbour/friend why you are wearing red
- Give a child a red balloon and explain the significance
- Give encouragement to your local group leaders—can you help in any way?

Pray For

- Sunday School / Kid's Club /Messy Church/ Mainly Music and SRE Teachers
- Remembering John d.1791 and Charles d.1788 Wesley, Evangelists ( 24th), pray for all who preach the Gospel
- The bible study groups in your parish

**27<sup>th</sup> May – 2<sup>nd</sup> June      **Trinity****

Study

For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God. For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received a spirit of adoption.      Romans 8.15

Action

- Write some prayers for you Group Reunion Group about the power of Holy Communion

Pray For

- Remembering Thanksgiving for Holy Communion,(31st), pray for all involved in Sanctuary Ministry
- Those who write intercessions for weekly worship
- Vocations to the sacred ministry
- Week of prayer for Reconciliation

**3<sup>rd</sup> – 9<sup>th</sup> June      **Second Sunday after Pentecost****

Study

So we do not loose heart. Even though our outer nature is wasting away, our inner nature is being renewed day by day.      2 Corinthians 4.16

Action

- Invite someone in your congregation to afternoon tea
- Investigate how to help local refugee communities

Pray For

- Remembering the Martyrs of Uganda, d.1886 (3rd), pray for work of the church in Africa
- The African refugees who have settled in Australia
- Aid agencies supporting refugees

**10<sup>th</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup> June      **Third Sunday after Pentecost****

Study

But just as we have the same spirit of faith that is in accordance with scripture – “I believe and so I spoke” – we also believe, and so we speak, because we know that the one who raised the Lord Jesus Christ will raise us also with Jesus, and will bring us with you into his presence.      2 Corinthians 4.13-14

Action

- World Blood Donor Day (14th) think about donating blood if you are able
- Read a book by a Spiritual Writer
- Talk to a friend about the book
- Read about some of the missionary outreaches of our mission agencies

Pray For

- Good parenting
- Remembering Evelyn Underhill, spiritual writer d1941 (15th), pray for all Spiritual writers
- A voice to speak of God's love

**17<sup>th</sup>, 23<sup>rd</sup> June      **Fourth Sunday after Pentecost****

Study

For all of us must appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each may receive recompense for what has been done in the body, whether good or evil.      2 Corinthians 5.10

Action

- World Refugee Day (20th) - Lobby local politicians for fair treatment of refugees.
- Write to someone you know who needs support at the moment

Pray For

- Remembering Alban, first British Martyr d.209 (22nd), pray for the Archbishop of Canterbury and all church leaders
- Our own strength as we continue the journey
- A fair justice system

**24<sup>th</sup> – 30<sup>th</sup> June Fifth Sunday after Pentecost**

Study

We are putting no obstacle in anyone's way, so that no fault may be found with our ministry. 2 Corinthians 6.3

Action

- Talk to a new parent about Baptism and the meaning of Baptism
- Support the Baptism support program of your parish

Pray for

- Remembering the Birth of John the Baptist (24th), pray for all new babies and their parents
- The newly Baptised
- Those who are suffering the loss of a child and those unable to have children

**1<sup>st</sup> – 7<sup>th</sup> July Sixth Sunday after Pentecost**

Study

For you know the generous act of our Lord Jesus Christ, yet though he was rich, yet for our sakes he became poor, so that by his poverty you may become rich. 2 Corinthians 8.9

Action

- NAIDOC Week—is there an activity you can be involved in?
- Contact someone you haven't seen at church for a while

Pray For

- Remembering the Coming of the Light, the first missionaries to the Torres Strait 1871 (1st) pray for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Island Christians
- Remembering St Thomas, apostle and martyr (3rd), pray for all those who are questioning their faith

**8<sup>th</sup> – 14<sup>th</sup> July Seventh Sunday after Pentecost**

Study

Therefore I am content with weaknesses, insults, persecutions, and calamities for the sake of Christ; for whenever I am weak, then I am strong. 2 Corinthians 12.10

Action

- Research the Samaritans Grandparents as Parents program (GAPS)
- Are there women you can ask to attend W47?
- Can you support BCA?

Pray For

- Remembering Sydney James Kirkby' Bishop and pioneer of outback ministry and the Bush Church Aid Society d.1935 (13th), pray for all isolated Christians and those who minister to them
- The BCA grey nomads
- Remembering Ann the mother of the Blessed Virgin Mary (28th), pray for all grandparents and especially those who have primary care of their grandchildren

**15<sup>th</sup> - 21<sup>st</sup> July      **Eighth Sunday after Pentecost****

Study

He destined us for adoption as his children through Jesus Christ, according to the good pleasure of his will to the praise of his glorious grace that he freely bestowed on us through the Beloved.                  Ephesians 1.5-6

Action

- Research some area of social justice that you feel strongly about
- Develop and implement a plan of action to be involved in that area

Pray For

- All adopted children and their parents
- Those who work to reunite families

**23<sup>rd</sup> July – 4<sup>th</sup> August      **Tenth Sunday after Pentecost****

Study

I pray that according to the riches of his glory, he may grant that you may be strengthened in your inner being with power through his Spirit, and that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith, as you are being rooted and grounded in love.                  Ephesians 3.16-17

Action

- Can you make a contribution to the *Encourager*?
- Prepare a special list of prayer points and devote extra time to prayer this week
- International Day of Friendship (30th) - organize a gathering of friends
- Contact a friend you have not heard from for a while

Pray For

- Remembering William Wilberforce, social reformer d.1833 (30th), pray for all governments that they may work for social justice
- Friends

**5<sup>th</sup> – 11<sup>th</sup> August      **Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost****

Study

Do not work for the food that perishes, but for the food that endures for eternal life, which the Son of Man will give you.                  John 6.27

Action

- Are there men you can invite to M47?
- International Youth Day (12th) how can you support the youth in your area?
- Support your church's efforts at outreach to the young.

Pray For

- National Secretariat Meeting
- Remembering Clare of Assisi d.1252 (11th), pray for those who live a life of praying for others
- Remembering Mary Sumner founder of Mother's Union d.1921 (9th) pray for the Mother's Union members in our diocese
- All Cursillo groups in Australia and their vision for the future

**12<sup>th</sup> – 15<sup>th</sup> August Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost**

Study

No one can come to me unless drawn by the Father who sent me; and I will raise that person up on the last day. John 6.44

Action

- Visit someone who has recently lost a loved one
- Write a letter to someone living in a nursing home or aged care facility

Pray For

- Remembering The 20th Century Martyrs including Maximilien Kolbe friar d.1940, Maria Skobtsova, Abbess in Russia d.1945,
- Dietrich Bonhoeffer, theologian d.1945 Martin Luther King Jr, worker for civil liberties d.1968, Janani Luwam, Archbishop of Uganda d.1977 and Oscar Romero, Archbishop of San Salvador d.1980 (14th), pray for all who this week will face persecution for their faith.
- Those who are facing difficult times in their faith journey
- Our Anglican Care aged care facilities

**19<sup>th</sup> – 23<sup>th</sup> August Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost**

Study

So Jesus said to them, "very truly, I tell you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you have no life in you." John 6.53

Action

- Begin to read a book on an aspect of theology that you haven't read before
- Share the learning with members of your Group Reunion Group

Pray For

- Remembering St Bartholomew, apostle and martyr (24th), pray for ourselves and our parish as we persevere with our outreach
- That we may have open ears and hearts to receive the messages God sends us through the writings of others
- W47

**26<sup>th</sup> August – 1<sup>st</sup> September Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost**

Study

"I am the living bread that came down from heaven. Whoever eats of this bread will live forever; and the bread that I will give for the life of the world is my flesh." John 6.51

Action

- Prepare a special treat for a new mother
- Cook with a child and explain to them about bread and 'living bread'

Pray For

- Remembering John Bunyan, preacher and spiritual writer d.1688 (31st), pray for our clergy as they prepare their sermons
- The social justice work of the Samaritans
- The homeless

**2<sup>nd</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> September      **Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost****

Study

Then he called the crowd again and said to them, "Listen to me all of you and understand: there is nothing outside a person that by going in can defile, but the things that come out that defile."      Mark 7.14-15

Action

- Is there someone I have wronged by my words that I need to ask for forgiveness?
- Support the church in PNG
- Can I help any victims of domestic violence?

Pray For

- Remembering 'Martyrs of New Guinea' d.1942 pray for all who have given their lives in the cause of the Gospel
- Children who live in difficult circumstances
- Remembering Eliza Darling, pioneer and social reformer in MSW d.1868 (3rd), pray for victims of domestic violence

**9<sup>th</sup> – 15<sup>th</sup> September      **Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost****

Study

I am grateful to Jesus Christ our Lord, who has strengthened me, because he judged me faithful and appointed me to his service.    1 Timothy 1.12

Action

- World Suicide Prevention Day (10th) - research the signs of mental disorder and be prepared to ask 'Are you OK?'
- What service can I carry out for the Lord this week?

Pray For

- Remembering the Holy Cross (14th), pray for all who are weighed down by 'heavy burdens'
- A new vision of the cross Jesus wants you to bear
- Families who have suffered the effects of suicide
- M47

**16<sup>th</sup> – 22<sup>nd</sup> September      **Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost****

Study

He called the crowd with his disciples and said to them "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me."

Mark 8.34

Action

- International Day of Peace (21st) - plan special prayers or a special service for peace
- Write to your local politician about a peace matter
- Check any neighbours that may need house caring, mail getting or watering during the holidays

Pray For

- Strength and courage for those who work in refugee camps
- Wise decision on world peace matters from world politicians

**23<sup>rd</sup> – 29<sup>th</sup> September**

**Eighteenth Sunday after**

**Pentecost**

Study

Then he took a little child and put it among them; and taking it in his arms he said to them, "Whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me, welcomes not me but the one who sent me."

Mark 9.36-37

Action

- Attend M47 and W47 Welcome Day at Morpeth
- Offer to assist the Samaritans representative in your parish

Pray For

- Remembering St Vincent de Paul, priest and worker with the poor d.1660(27th), pray for the work of St Vincent de Paul and the Samaritans
- Samaritans volunteers who work with children

**30<sup>th</sup> September – 6<sup>th</sup> October**

**Nineteenth Sunday after**

**Pentecost**

Study

For truly I tell you, whoever gives you a cup of water to drink because you bear the name of Christ will by no means lose their reward.

Mark 9.41

Action

- How can I support an environmental group?
- What changes can you make to save resources?
- Can you improve your recycling?
- Are you remembering to take your own shopping bags?

Pray For

- Remembering St Francis, friar and preacher (4th), pray for all Franciscan orders especially for the Franciscans at Stroud and the Third Order Franciscans in our diocese
- A sense of fairness in Government environmental policies
- Prayers and thanksgiving for the whole created order

**7<sup>th</sup> – 13<sup>th</sup> October**

**Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost**

Study

But when Jesus saw this he was indignant and said to them, "Let the little children come to me; do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of God belongs."

Mark 10.14

Action

- Is there some way to support the Kairos ministries?
- Offer support to your parish in their outreach to young people
- World Mental Health Day (10th) - is there a way of supporting someone with mental health issues?

Pray For

- Remembering Elizabeth Fry prison reformer d.1845 (12th), pray for the 'Kairos', 'Kairos Outside' and 'Torch' and the Juvenile Justice Chaplain
- Those in prison and those who minister to them

**14<sup>th</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup> October Twenty First Sunday after Pentecost**

Study

Indeed the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing until it divides soul from the spirit, joints from the marrow; it is able to judge the thoughts and intentions of the heart. Hebrews 4.12

Action

- Can I offer support to anyone who needs help during exam time?
- Send a message of support to a person facing exams
- Send a message of support to our hospital chaplains

Pray For

- Good government policy on health issues
- Remembering St Luke, evangelist and martyr (18th), pray for all doctors and nurses and those who care for the sick
- All suffering from incurable diseases
- Wise decisions in our judicial system

**21<sup>st</sup> – 27<sup>th</sup> October Twenty second Sunday after Pentecost**

Study

But it is not so among you; whoever wishes to become great among you must be your servant, and whoever wishes to be first among you must be slave of all. For the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and give his life a ransom for many. Mark 10.43-45

Action

- Can I be involved in a Servant Community?
- Contact family members you have not contacted in a while

Pray For

- The Cursillo Servant Communities
- Remembering James of Jerusalem, brother of our Lord, martyr, d.c.62 (23rd), pray for all our brothers and sister in Christ

**25<sup>th</sup> October – 3<sup>rd</sup> November Twenty third Sunday after Pentecost**

Study

Then Jesus said to him "what do you want me to do for you?" The blind man said to him, "My teacher let me see again." Jesus said to him, "Go, your faith has made you well." Mark 10.51-52a

Action

- Contact someone who has lost a loved one in the last year
- Attend Diocesan Ultreya at St Peters East Maitland

Pray For

- Remembering All Souls Day (2nd), pray for those you know who have died in the last year
- Those in Palliative care at this time
- Families suffering grief
- That our faith may grow that we may see and be made well again



**4<sup>th</sup> – 10<sup>th</sup> November      **All Saints****

Study

Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. Revelation 21.1

Action

- Invite someone to an end of year church function?
- Smile at everyone you meet in the street

Pray For

- Remembering All Saints Day (4th), pray for all Christians throughout the world that they may model their lives on Christ's
- On the 4th we are asked especially to pray for Roman Catholics
- The Samaritan's Christmas appeal
- Continued enthusiasm in outreach

**11<sup>th</sup> – 17<sup>th</sup> November      **Twenty-fifth Sunday after Pentecost****

Study

"For all of them have contributed out of their abundance; but she out of her poverty has put in everything she had, all she had to live on."

Mark 12.44

Action

- International Day of Tolerance (16th) research another religion so you have a greater understanding of their perspective
- Acquire some special gifts for the Samaritans Christmas tree appeal
- Organize some fund raising for the Samaritan's Christmas appeal

Pray For

- Religious and racial tolerance
- Parents for whom this Christmas will be difficult
- The continued work of the Samaritans
- Remembering Hilda of Whitby, abbess d.680 (17th), pray for women who devote themselves to God and the church through religious orders
- Generosity of heart and resources

**15<sup>th</sup> – 24<sup>th</sup> November      **Twenty-sixth Sunday after Pentecost****

Study

Beware that no one leads you astray. Many will come in my name and say, 'I am he!' and they will lead many astray. Mark 13.6

Action

- Assist with preparations for local Carol Service
- Invite friends to community and/or church Carol Service

Pray For

- Remembering Elizabeth of Hungary, princess and philanthropist d.1231 (19th), pray for all who give generously to God's work
- A greater understanding of God's purpose for us
- Strength to carry out that purpose
- The ministry of the Church in our communities

**23<sup>rd</sup> November – 1<sup>st</sup> December Christ The King**

Study

The Lord is king, and has put on robes of glory:

the Lord has put on his glory,

he has girded himself with strength.

Psalm 93.

Action

- Prepare hand made Christmas cards with a religious theme or buy commercial cards supporting Christian groups
- Send greeting cards to your local clergy

Pray For

- Remembering St Andrew, apostle and martyr (30th), pray for all who earn their living from the sea or working the land
- Those in situations where to celebrate Christmas may mean persecution
- A renewed effort in our prayer lives
- The ordained clergy in the diocese

**2<sup>nd</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> December First Sunday in Advent**

Study

"Be on guard so that your hearts are not weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and the worries of this life, and that day does not catch you unexpectedly, like a trap." Luke 21.34-35a

Action

- International Day of Persons with Disabilities (4th) - check all your facilities are disability friendly
- Assist in the preparation of Christmas worship material
- Help with the Christmas clean up of church and grounds

Pray For

- Remembering Francis Xavier, priest and missionary d.1552 (3rd), pray for all currently preparing for missionary activity
- The church's preparation for Christmas
- For those suffering from addictions

**9<sup>th</sup> – 13<sup>th</sup> December Second Sunday of Advent**

Study

And this is my prayer, that your love may overflow more and more with knowledge and full insight to help you to determine what is the best, so that in the day of Christ you may be pure and blameless, having produced a harvest of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ for the glory and praise of God.

Philippians 1.9-11

Action

- Have a visible Christmas crib in your house
- Explain the true meaning of Christmas to a child
- Invite children/grandchildren/neighbours to a special Children's service

Pray For

- Remembering the Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary (8th), pray for all pregnant women
- Couples who are finding it difficult to have a family

**16<sup>th</sup> – 22<sup>nd</sup> December****Third Sunday of Advent**Study

John answered all of them by saying, "I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and with fire"

Luke 3.16

Action

- Help with the church's preparations for Christmas
- Support a family with a new baby
- Encourage a family to attend a Christmas service
- Continue to support Samaritans Christmas food appeal

Pray For

- 
- Safety on the roads as the school holidays begin
- Happy family reunions
- Peace in Jerusalem
- The unemployed
- Sensible spending at Christmas time

**23<sup>rd</sup> – 29<sup>th</sup> December****Fourth Sunday of Advent**Study

And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her by the Lord.

Luke 1.45

Action

- Contact community Nursing Home, hospital to see if there are any people needing special visits
- Prepare some New Year Greeting with a religious theme
- Invite someone you know will be on their own to a Christmas service

Pray For

- Those who are on their own in this Christmas season
- A renewed sense of joy in the Christian community as we celebrate the birth of Christ.
- Those who must work on Christmas Day
- The Samaritans Christmas luncheon

**30<sup>th</sup> December – 5<sup>th</sup> January****First Sunday after Christmas**Study

John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins.

Mark 1.4

Action

- Review your spiritual needs and make a plan
- Encourage unity in your family
- Assist any families you know are in need post Christmas

Pray For

- All new Christians and a renewal of our own faith
- An open heart to see god's purpose for you
- All who will become Australian Citizens