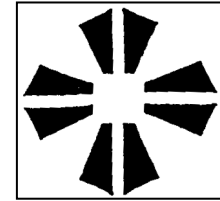


Newcastle
Anglican
Cursillo



Apostolic
Action Diary
2019



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 any
parish based activities

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

6th—12th January The Epiphany of Our Lord

Study

When they saw that the star had stopped they were overwhelmed with joy. On entering the house they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Matthew 2.10,11a

Action

- Check any preparations that may be needed in church to begin new year
- Can you add your name to a roster
- Contact people you missed over Christmas
- Offer to mind children to give parents a break during the holiday

Pray For

- The wider Anglican community and persecuted Christians
- All those who were Baptised the previous year

13th—19th January Baptism of our Lord

Study

Now when all the people were baptized, and when Jesus had been baptized and was praying, the heaven was opened, and the Holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice proclaimed from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved, with you I am well pleased." Luke 3.21-22

Action

- Plan a new Bible study. Investigate new courses that we may find ways of increasing our knowledge of God this year
- Offer assistance to those involved in Baptism preparation
- Make contact with any Godchildren

Pray For

- Those who work through the holidays for our safety
- Clergy beginning ministry in new parishes
- Parishes seeking new clergy

20th—26th January Second Sunday after Epiphany

Study

Jesus did this, the first of his signs, in Cana of Galilee, and revealed his glory; and his disciples believed in him. John 2.11

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 Companions of Paul the Apostle (24th), pray for all who are an encouragement for you on your Christian journey

27th—January—2nd February Third Sunday after Epiphany

Study

Then Jesus filled with the power of the Spirit, returned to Galilee, and a report about him spread through all the surrounding country. He began to teach in their synagogues and was praised by everyone. Luke 4.14,15

Action

- Write a letter of encouragement to your clergy
- Can you be involved in your local school?
- Offer assistance to a family to help children settle into school

Pray For

- Our Bishops as they prepare for the new year
- As we remember Thomas Aquinas theologian d.1274 (28th) pray for all those involved in education

3rd—9th February Fourth Sunday after Epiphany

Study

"The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free.

Luke 4.18

Action

- Is there some way to assist someone you know with cancer or their carer
- Support a Cancer research organisation
- Is there someone you could invite to 'Women Sharing our Faith'

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 the Coptic Christians
- World Cancer Day (4th) pray for victims of cancer, medical staff and researchers
- Secretariat meeting (5th)

10th—16th February Fifth Sunday after Epiphany

Study

When they brought their boats ashore, they left everything and followed him. Luke 5.11

Action

- Plan a special Lenten Bible study
- Can you support the Grandparents as Parents (GAPS) program?
- Research the views of your local state politicians

Pray For

- Children and grandparents involved in the GAPS program
- Eucharistic Assistants
- Those who suffer as a result of family violence
- Our state politicians as they prepare for state elections

17th—23rd February Sixth Sunday after Epiphany

Study

They had come to hear him and to be healed of their diseases; and those who were troubled by unclean spirits were cured. Luke 6.18

Action

- Write a message of encouragement or visit an ill parishioner
- World Day of Social Justice (20th) is there an issue you can write to a member of Parliament about?

Pray For

- Remembering William Grant Broughton first Bishop of Australia d.1853 (20th), pray for the vision for our diocese
- Remembering the Holy Innocents (17th), pray for all children who die as a result of violence
- The healing ministry of the church

24th February – 2nd March Seventh Sunday after Epiphany

Study

"But I say to you that listen, Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who abuse you."

Luke 6.27

Action

- Research your parish mission project/s and tell someone about it/them
- Any assistance you can give to 'Women sharing our Faith'

Pray For

- Those in the community who feel useless that they may find a purpose
- Remembering George Herbert parish Priest and Poet d.1633 (27th), pray for all those training for ministry
- For those you find hard to love
- 'Women Sharing Our Faith Weekend'

3rd—9th March Transfiguration

Study

While he was saying this, a cloud came and overshadowed them; and they were terrified as they entered the cloud. Then from the cloud came a voice that said, "This is my Son my chosen; listen to him!"

Luke 9.34,35

Action

- Attend Ash Wednesday service
- Support Shrove Tuesday event if you have one
- International Women's Day (8th), encourage the female members of your congregation

Pray For

- Remembering John of God, worker among the sick and poor d.1550 (8th) we pray for those who work in slum areas and refugee camps
- Those having difficulty with their faith

- Those affected by the slave trade and those who work to release them

10th—16th March First Sunday in Lent

Study

Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit into the wilderness, where for forty days he was tempted by the devil. Luke 4.1

Action

- Give a book about the true meaning of Easter to a young person
- Review the things that tempt you and how you may overcome them

Pray For

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

17th—23rd March Second Sunday in Lent

Study

Brothers and sisters, join in imitating me, and observe those who live according to the example you have in us. Philippians 3.17

Action

- Remembering Joseph, husband of the Blessed Virgin Mary prepare a meal for a new father
- Remember to vote!!!
- Review you use if water and it can be better preserved

Pray For

- Our state elections
- World Water Day (22nd) pray for those suffering from the drought and from countries where water security is a major issue
- Our mission agencies working on water projects
- Men as they seek their role in a changing society

24th—30th March Third Sunday in Lent

Study

God is faithful, and he will not let you be tested beyond your strength, but with the testing he will also provide the way out so that you may be able to endure it. 1 Corinthians 10.13b

Action

- Attend Lady Day service at the Cathedral Monday 25th
- Research modern day slavery. Can you support anti slavery groups/

Pray For

- The work of Mothers Union throughout the world
- Peace in our hearts and the world
- Peacemakers and the work of the United Nations
- 25th is the international day of remembrance of the victim of slavery and the transatlantic slave trade. Pray for the victims of slavery and those who con-

tinue to work to eliminate modern day slavery

31st March—6th April Fourth Sunday in Lent

Study

So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away, see everything has become new. 2 Corinthians 5.17

Action

- Attend Mothering Sunday service
- Invite someone to come with you
- Find a way to encourage a young family

Pray For

- All mothers and those unable to be mothers
- Good decision making by our local councils
- Those suffering from family breakdown
- Diocesan Secretariat meeting (2nd)

7th—13th April Fifth Sunday in Lent

Study

Yet whatever gains I had, these I have come to regard as loss because of Christ. More than that, I regard everything as loss because of the surpassing value of knowing Christ my Lord. Philippians 4.7, 8a

Action

- Attend commissioning of W48 and M48 on 11th at Raymond Terrace
- Be a peacemaker in your parish
- Review your use of resources

Pray For

- The teams of W48 and M48
- Remembering George Augustus Selwyn, first missionary Bishop of New Zealand pray for good relations with Pacific nations
- A godly attitude toward climate change

14th—19th April Sunday of Passion, Palm Sunday

Study

So that at the name of Jesus, every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. Philippians 2.10,11

Action

- Attend church daily during Holy Week
- Attend the Oils Eucharist in your area
- Seek the views of your local federal politician on matters of importance

Pray For

- Our federal politicians as they prepare for the national elections
- Peace in our hearts and in our world

21st April Easter day

Study

Then the other disciple, who reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed. John 20.8

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
- ANZAC Day (25th) pray All those who have fought or died in wars
- Peacekeeping forces active at this time

28th April – 4th May 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 to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit." John 20.21,22

Action

- Write a spiritual reflection on your Lenten journey
- Share your journey with a friend
- Find some way to support your local clergy
- Pray For
- Remembering Catherine of Sienna, spiritual teacher d.1380 (29th) pray for all theological colleges
- A spirit of peace in our congregation
- Thoughtful decision making by world leaders
- World Day for safety and health at work (28th) pray for safe work places

5th—11th May Third Sunday of Easter

Study

That my heart may sing your praises and never be silent;

O Lord my God, I will give you thanks for ever. Psalm 30.12

Action

- Review your support for the mission agencies of the church

Pray For

- Remembering John Apostle and Evangelist (6th) pray for all clergy and missionaries
- A renewed Spirit of hope in our church
- Those who daily face danger for their faith
- Diocesan Secretariat Meeting (7th)

12th—18th May Fourth Sunday of Easter

Study

I am the gate. Whoever enters by me will be saved, and will come in and go out and find pasture. John 10.9

Action

- International Day of Families (15th) - plan a family event
- Invite a family who doesn't have a family support network nearby
- Is there a GAPS group I can support

Pray For

- Family unity
- The wider church family
- Families facing financial difficulties
- Samaritans as they support families

19th—25th May Fifth Sunday of Easter

Study

I give you a new commandment, that you love one another, just as I have loved you, you should also love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love one for another. John 13.34,35

Action

- Send a message of encouragement to our theological students
- 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 Bede of Jarrow priest and teacher d.753 (25th) pray for vocations to the sacred ministry
- The bible study groups in your parish

26th May – 1st June Sixth Sunday of Easter

Study

But the advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything, and remind you of all that I have said to you. John 14.26

Action

- Make contact with friends of a different denomination

Pray For

- Week of prayer for reconciliation (27th May—3rd June) - check on the Australian Council of Churches website for daily prayers
- Those who write intercessions for weekly worship

2nd—8th June Seventh Sunday of Easter

Study

"Righteous Father, the world does not know you, but I know you; and these know that you have sent me. I made your name known to them, and I will name it known, so that the love with which you have loved me may be in them, and I in them." John 17.25,26

Action

- Can you make any positive suggestions for the Secretariat Meeting
- Investigate how to help local refugee communities

Pray For

- Week of prayer for Christian Unity (2nd—8th)
- Remembering the Martyrs of Uganda, d.1886 (3rd), pray for work of the church in Africa
- Aid agencies supporting refugees
- Refugee organizations in Australia
- Peaceful integration of refugees into society
- Diocesan Secretariat Meeting (4th)

9th—15th June

Day of Pentecost

Study

Very truly I tell you, the one who believes in me will also do the works that I do and , in fact, will do greater works than these, because I am going to the Father John 14.12

Action

- 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
- World Blood Donor Day (14th) think about donating blood if you are able

Pray For

- Ember week—pray especially for the ordained ministry of the church
- A voice to speak of God's love

16th—22nd June Trinity Sunday

Study

When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth; for he will not speak on his own, but will speak whatever he hears, and he will declare to you the things that are to come. John 16.13

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

- Those living in refugee camps throughout the world
- A fair national response to the refugee situation
- A fair justice system

23rd—29th June Second Sunday after Pentecost

Study

As many of you as were baptised into Christ have clothed yourself with Christ. There is no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free, there is no longer male or female; for you are all one in Jesus Christ. Galatians 3.27,28

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

30th June—6th July Third Sunday after Pentecost

Study

For you were called to freedom brothers and sisters only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for self-indulgence, but through love become slaves to one another. Galatians 5.13

Action

- 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
- Diocesan Secretariat meeting (2nd)

7th—13 July Fourth Sunday after Pentecost

Study

If you sow to your own flesh, you will reap corruption from the flesh; but if you sow to the Spirit, you will reap eternal life from the Spirit. Galatians 6.8

Action

- NAIDOC Week (7-14)—is there an activity you can be involved in?
- Research the Uluru Statement from the Heart
- Are there women you can ask to attend W48?
- 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 (26th), pray for all grandparents and especially those who have primary care of their grandchildren

14th—20th July Fifth Sunday after Pentecost

Study

He answered, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your strength, and with all your mind; and your neighbour as yourself. Luke 10.27

Action

- Is there a way to support our Mission to Sea farers
- 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

- Sea Sunday 14th pray for all seafarers and their families
- All adopted children and their parents
- Those who work to reunite families

21st—27th July Sixth Sunday after Pentecost

Study

He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation; for in him all things in heaven and on earth were created, things visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or powers - all things have been created through him and for him. Colossians 1.15

Action

- Can I contribute to Mothers Union support of the NICU unit at John Hunter Hospital?
- Can I contribute to Mothers Union 'baby bundles' distributed by social workers at local hospitals

Pray For

- Remembering Anne, mother of the Blessed Virgin Mary (26th) pray for all pregnant women
- Midwives and all who work with newborns
- Those who work to reunite families

28th July—3rd August Seventh Sunday after Pentecost

Study

So I say to you, ask, and it will be given you; search and you will find, knock and the door will be opened for you. For everyone who asks receives, and everyone who searches finds, and for everyone who knocks, the door will be opened. Luke 11.9,10

Action

- Can you make a contribution to the *Encouragerr*
- 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
- Lonely people

4th—10th August Eighth Sunday after Pentecost

Study

But God said to him, 'You fool! This very hour your life is being demanded of you. And the things you have prepared, whose will they be? 'So it is with those who store up treasures for themselves but are not rich toward God' Luke 12.20,21

Action

- Are there men you can invite to M48?
- Prepare Palanca for W48
- 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

- 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 or the Mother's Union members in our diocese
- All Cursillo groups in Australia and their vision for the future
- Diocesan Secretariat Meeting (6th)

11th—17th August Ninth Sunday after Pentecost

Study

"You must also be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour." Luke 12.40

Action

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

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 Romera, 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

18th—24th August Tenth Sunday after Pentecost

Study

Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight and the sin that clings so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus the pioneer and perfecter of our faith. Hebrews 12.1,2a

Action

- Attend Mananita or Clausura for W48 (22nd-25th)
- Invite someone to attend with you
- Is there someone I can invite to attend M48

Pray For

- Remembering Bernard of Clairvaux, abbot and teacher d.1153 pray for ourselves that we may be open to new learning's
- That we may have open ears and hearts to receive the messages God sends us through the writings of others
- W48 weekend 22nd-25th

25th—31st August Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost

Study

"Therefore since we are receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, let us give thanks, by which we offer to God an acceptable worship with reverence and awe. Hebrews 12.28

Action

- Prepare Palanca for M48
- Attend an extra Eucharist this week
- Prepare Palanca for Hong Kong Cursillo

Pray For

- Remembering the beheading of John the Baptist (29th) pray for persecuted Christians
- The social justice work of the Samaritans
- The homeless

1st—7th September Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost

Study

For all who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted. Luke 14.11

Action

- Attend Mananita or Clausura for M28
- Support the church in PNG
- Can I help any victims of domestic violence?

Pray For

- M48 5th—8th
- 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
- Diocesan Secretariat Meeting (3rd)

8th—14th September **Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost**

Study

I pray that the sharing of your faith may become effective when you perceive all the good that we may do for Christ. Philemon 6

Action

- World Suicide Prevention Day (10th) - research the signs of mental disorder and be prepared to ask 'Are you OK?' to family members and close friends
- Research national suicide figures—is there an organisation I can support

Pray For

- Remembering Mother Esther CHN founder of the Community of the Holy Name in Melbourne pray for all who find prayer difficult
- The Franciscan Brothers at Stroud
- Families who have suffered the effects of suicide

15th—21st September **Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost**

Study

Just so, I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who need no repentance. Luke 15.7

Action

- International Day of Peace (21st) - plan special prayers or a special service for peace
- How can I contribute to harmony in my local community
- Can I be more involved in local community activities

Pray For

- Peace in our world and peace in our hearts
- Remembering John Wollaston, priest and missionary of WA pray for unity in our National Church
- Wise decision on world peace matters from world politicians
- National Secretariat Meeting 20th-22nd

22nd—28th September **Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost**

Study

For everything created by God is good, and nothing is to be rejected, provided it is received with thanksgiving; for it is sanctified by God's word and by prayer. 1 Timothy 4.4,5

Action

- Attend M48 and W48 Welcome Day
- 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

29 September – 5th October **Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost**

Study

But those who want to be rich fall into temptation and are trapped by many senseless and harmful desires that plunge people into ruin and destruction.

1 Timothy 6.9

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
- Diocesan Secretariat Meeting 2nd
- Hong Kong Cursillo 4th-7th

6th—12th October **Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost**

Study

The apostles said to the Lord, "Increase our faith!" The Lord replied, "If you had faith the size of a mustard seed, you could say to this mulberry tree, 'be uprooted and planted in the sea,' and it would obey you."

Luke 17.5

Action

- Is there some way to support the Kairos ministries?
- Offer support to your parish in their outreach to young people

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
- Judges and those who work in the Courts

13th—19th October **Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost**

Study

You then, my child, be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus; and what you have heard from me through many witnesses entrust to faithful people who will be able to teach others as well. 2 Timothy 2.1,2

Action

- Can I offer support to anyone who needs help during exam time?
- Send a message of support to a person facing exams
- Use Teresa of Avila special prayer at the beginning of this book, use it daily and share it with someone

Pray For

- Our education system and our Anglican Schools
- Remembering Teresa of Avila, teacher d.2592 (15th)
- Calmness for students preparing for exams

20th—26th October **Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost**

Study

All scripture is inspired by God and is useful for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, so that everyone who belongs to God may be proficient, equipped for every good work.
2 Timothy 3.16

Action

- Can I be involved in a Servant Community?
- Research and support one of the United Nations projects

Pray For

- The Cursillo Servant Communities
- Remembering The united Nations inaugurated in 1945 pray for the ongoing work throughout the world especially its humanitarian work

27th October – 2nd November **Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost**

Study

But the Lord stood by me and gave me strength, so that through me the message might be fully proclaimed and all the gentiles might hear it.
2 Timothy 4.17a

Action

- Contact someone who has lost a loved one in the last year
- Attend Diocesan Ultreya at St James Wyong—2nd

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

3rd—9th November **All Saints**

Study

But love your enemies, do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return. Your reward will be great, and you will be children of the most high.

Luke 6.35a

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
- On the 8th we are asked to pray for Saints, martyrs, missionaries and teachers of the Anglican community

9th— 16th November **Twenty-second Sunday after Pentecost**

Study

The Lord is just in all his ways:

and faithful in all his dealings.

The Lord is near to all who call upon him:

to all who call upon him in truth.

Psalm 145.17,18

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 to assist the Samaritan's Christmas appeal in the parish

Pray For

- Religious and racial tolerance
- Parents for whom this Christmas will be difficult
- The continued work of the Samaritans
- Generosity of heart and resources

17th—23rd November **Twenty third Sunday after Pentecost**

Study

So make up your minds not to prepare your defense in advance; For I will give you words and a wisdom that none of your opponents will be able to withstand or contradict.
Luke 21.14

Action

- Assist with preparations for Christmas celebrations
- Universal children's Day (20th) prepare special celebrations for children in your parish

Pray For

- Remembering Elizabeth of Hungary, princess and philanthropist d.1231 (19th), pray for all who give generously to God's work
- Continued diligence in our prayer life
- The ministry of the Church in the wider community as we prepare for Christmas

24th—30th November **Christ The King**

Study

Then he said, "Jesus remember me when you come into your kingdom."

He replied, "Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in Paradise."

Luke 23.42,43

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 James Noble, pioneer Aboriginal Deacon d.1941 (25th) pray for ministry to our indigenous people
- Those in situations where to celebrate Christmas may mean persecution
- The ordained clergy in the diocese

1st—7th December First Sunday in Advent

Study

"But about that day and hour no one knows, neither the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father." Matthew

24.36

Action

- International Day of Persons with Disabilities (4th) - check all your facilities are disability friendly
- Check for people within the parish who may need assistance to attend church
- Visit sick or house bound parishioners

Pray For

- Remembering Frances Perry, founder of the Royal women's Hospital in Melbourne d.1892 (2nd) pray for our medical practitioners
- The church's preparation for Christmas
- For those facing terminal illness at this time

8th—14th December Second Sunday of Advent

Study

I baptise you with water for repentance, but one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and fire. Matthew 3.11

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 Lucy, martyr and virgin pray for all single people especially those who have no family with which to celebrate Christmas

15th—21st December Third Sunday of Advent

Study

Jesus answered them, "Go and tell John what you hear and see: The blind receive their sight, the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have good news brought to them. And blessed is anyone who takes no offence at me."

Matthew 11.4-6

Action

- Help with the church's preparations for Christmas services
- 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
- A true understanding of the meaning of Christmas

22nd—28th December Fourth Sunday of Advent

Study

But just when he had resolved to do this, and an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus for he will save his people from their sins."

Matthew 1.20-21

Action

- Be a peacemaker in your family
- Support a family with a new baby
- Encourage a family to attend a Christmas service

Pray For

- Safety on the roads as the school holidays begin
- Happy family reunions
- Peace in our hearts

**Christ is counting
on you**

