



The Encourager

Print Post 100003354 August 2022 - Number 112 Magazine of the Newcastle Cursillo Movement

For we are God's servants, working together;
you are God's field, God's building.
1 Corinthians 3:9 (NRSV)

News Flash!

WCOF?

Ladies, have you
booked the date?
Page 17

Have you kept up with
the latest Cursillo news
and events?
Read more inside ...

For latest information check out the
Newcastle Anglican Cursillo Website
www.cursillonewcastle.org.au

Have you put the
date for the Annual
Diocesan Ultreya in
your Diary?



When and
where is the
next Ultreya
being held
in your
Deanery?

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**FROM OUR DIOCESAN
SPIRITUAL DIRECTOR
FR MARK COOPER**



How can we draw close to God? Sometimes in life God can feel very close while other times God feels very far away. This is not uncommon or new, most people feel like this and have done so for centuries. If we look to the Psalms we can find other people expressing these same feelings and frustrations.

The Psalms are the hymn book of the Jewish people and just like our modern-day hymn book it is filled with songs about all the types of experiences that life throws at us. These range from the very happy, Psalms of praise, to the lowest of the low, Psalms of lament. There are also Psalms of thanksgiving, wisdom, as well as royal Psalms.

The Psalms have influenced our own hymns and prayers. As you read the psalms you will be surprised how often you come across a verse that you already know. Of course, some Psalms are known in their entirety, like Psalm 23 “The Lord Is My Shepherd.”

When life gets hard it might be intuitive to keep away from lament Psalms as you don't want to feel worse. This misses the whole point of a lament Psalm. Knowing that someone else has felt just as bad as you do, and is shouting out to God, “WHERE ARE YOU?” can be cathartic. Even Jesus on the cross shouts out the first verse of Psalm 22 “MY GOD, MY GOD, WHY HAVE YOU FORSAKEN ME?”

The lament Psalms are more than just cathartic, they also give hope. The end of a lament psalm always finishes with the author remembering a time in the past when things were bad and God came to help them. From this memory the author then thanks God in advance, knowing that they haven't been abandoned and God will come to their aid again.

While I have spent a large portion of this article on hard times and laments, Psalms are also there for us in the good times. Psalms of praise and thanksgiving can be an echo to our uplifted spirits. These focus on the wonder of God and the grandeur of creation. They remind us that in the midst of all that is going on in the universe God still loves and cares for us personally.

Each day in morning and evening prayer we slowly make our way through all 150 Psalms. It takes exactly two months. As I write this article at the end of June we used Psalms 148 and 149 this morning. Tonight we will finish with 150, a Psalm of praise invoking all the sounds of the orchestra to “Praise the Lord!” Tomorrow we will recite Psalm 1 starting the next two month cycle again.

Whether you are happy or sad, feeling that God is close or very far away, dip into the Psalms for an ancient connection to how others throughout the centuries have expressed these deep human emotions and found closeness and hope in God.

Fr Mark Cooper

MONTHLY CURSILLO PRAYER DIARY

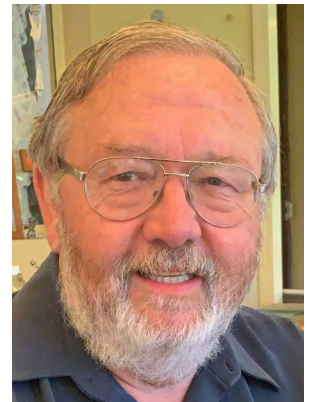
Pray everyday for Bishop Peter along with our Assistant Bishops Sonia and Charlie and our Diocese as we move towards a healthy future remembering our past.

- Day 1 National Lay Director - Lew Hitchick
- Day 2 National Secretary - Leanne Doyle
- Day 3 National Treasurer - Marea Niland
- Day 4 National Episcopal Advisor - Bishop Ian Palmer
- Day 5 National Spiritual Advisor - Reverend Jane Lamont
- Day 6 National Webmaster - Allan Grey
- Day 7 World Cursillo Community
- Day 8 Diocesan Co-Lay Directors - Noelene Lentfer
- Day 9 Diocesan Co-Lay Directors - Geoff Wooden
- Day 10 Diocesan Spiritual Directors - Reverend Mark Cooper/Reverend Gary Atherton
- Day 11 Diocesan Secretary - Lyn Wickham
- Day 12 Diocesan Treasurer - Colleen Read
- Day 13 Fourth Day/Applications/Promotion – Liz O’Sullivan
- Day 14 Prayer Coordinator - Reverend Alison Wooden
- Day 15 Servant Community Coordinator - Leonie Toovey
- Day 16 Servant Community Coordinator - Jeanette Deaves
- Day 17 Diocesan Proctor and Copyright Coordinator - Brian Taylor
- Day 18 'The Encourager' Editorial Team - Noreen Robertson
- Day 19 Palanca Coordinator - Lynn Dunnicliff
- Day 20 Central Coast - Clergy, Servant Community; Deanery Contact - Noeline Darcy
- Day 21 Lake Macquarie - Clergy, Servant Community; Deanery Contact - Brian Taylor
- Day 22 Maitland - Clergy, Servant Community; Deanery Contact - Wendy Brack
- Day 23 Paterson - Clergy, Servant Community; Deanery Contact - Cheryl Cooper
- Day 24 Manning - Clergy, Servant Community; Deanery Contact - Billie Baillie
- Day 25 Upper Hunter - Clergy, Servant Community; Deanery Contact - Tony Farmer
- Day 26 Newcastle - Clergy, Servant Community; Deanery Contact - Fr Chris Bullock
- Day 27 Lay Directors - W50 Marea Niland
- Day 28 Lay Directors - M50 Ken Iles
- Day 29 Prospective Sponsors and Potential Candidates
- Day 30 Fourth Day Community
- Day 31 Kairos, Torch and Kairos Outside/Inside/Juvenile



FROM OUR DIOCESAN CO-LAY DIRECTORS

NOELENE LENTFER
&
GEOFF WOODEN



Welcome to the Winter Edition 2022 of *The Encourager*.

We send greetings to all Cursillistas and a special welcome to our new Cursillistas from Men's and Women's 49.

As we write this report we are very aware of the situation for many with the recent rains and floods. We pray those who have been affected are recovering well and drying out. These have been testing times with these continued weather events.

2022 has been a year of challenge and opportunity for Cursillo as restrictions were eased regarding Covid and our Men's and Women's weekends were able to go ahead. We thank the Leaders and Team members for their commitment and willingness to continue after a three year hiatus, especially for going the extra mile when changed circumstances presented and were worked through.

What a blessing it was to hear the witness of the Candidates at Clausura.

Please continue to pray as Secretariat prepares for Men's and Women's Cursillo in 2023 that wise decisions will be made with the organising.

Prayer Cover:

As prayer undergirds all we do in Cursillo, we thank Rev. Alison Wooden Diocesan Prayer Chain Coordinator for her ministry and Pastoral Care.

Ultreya:

It has been a blessing to be able to meet face to face again and enjoy wonderful fellowship over a meal and coffee and tea. Continue to meet together as often as you can.

Welcome Day:

Thank you to Newcastle Deanery for organising this program. The day was well attended and enjoyed and much fellowship was shared over lunch. It is always a privilege to meet as God's family.

Finances and Banking Details:

Please read the article in this Encourager for all the

updated information you will need for banking.

Newcastle Anglican Cursillo Guidelines July 2022:

Revision and updating of the Newcastle Anglican Cursillo Guidelines is nearing completion, and is expected to be ratified at the August meeting of Secretariat. The new Guidelines, once ratified, will be put on the Website for your viewing and comment. All previous copies of the Guidelines should be discarded and the **Newcastle Anglican Cursillo Guidelines July 2022** used for reference.

Group Reunion Card:

The Revised Group Reunion Card is now in use and has been well received. For those who have not received one they will be available at the Diocesan Ultreya.

Diary Dates:

Please mark in your diary the following dates:

- **Diocesan Ultreya** to be held at Mayfield Church on Saturday 5th November. Bishop Peter will be in attendance. Bring your own lunch. Tea and Coffee available. Further details to follow.
- **Women Celebrating our Faith** Saturday 8th October at All Saints Church New Lambton. Details in this Encourager.

We would like to thank everyone who works for and supports the Cursillo ministry in so many ways. Without your support and prayers our task would be made that much harder.

In James 4:8a we are asked to "Draw close to God, and God will draw close to you."

For it is only when we draw near to God and ask for His guidance, wisdom and Grace through Piety, Study and Apostolic Action that we will be able to reflect His love to those we encounter.

Many Blessings

De Colores

Noelene and Geoff



Finance and Banking Details

Important changes to Finance and Banking Details have occurred.

Full details can be read in the Newcastle Anglican Cursillo Guidelines which is available on the Cursillo website:

www.cursillonewcastle.org.au.

All cash funds must be banked into the Newcastle Anglican Cursillo account using Direct Debit, as per the following banking details:

Newcastle Anglican Cursillo
BSB: 705 077
Account: 0041127

When you have made the Direct Debit, please fill in the two boxes on the bank page indicating:

1. Reason: eg
 - Annual Subs 2022;
 - Ultreya New Lambton July 2022;
 - Team W49;
 - Reimbursement of funds;
 - Donation for Cursillo weekends.
2. Contributor: eg:
 - your name; or
 - your role eg Proctor W49.



Once you have entered the information and pressed the submit button, the bank will automatically post a Receipt of Payment document.

A copy of this Receipt of Payment document must be sent to the Cursillo Treasurer, preferably via email: colleen.read@bigpond.com

or by mail to:
The Treasurer
Newcastle Anglican Cursillo
PO Box 174
WARATAH NSW 2298

Cheques:

If you are making a payment to Cursillo using a cheque or are in possession of a cheque for Cursillo, this must be sent via postal mail to The Treasurer for banking. Please include details of the cheque, and the reasons (eg Annual Subs for ... name of person) in your letter accompanying the cheque.

If you are unable to use Direct Debit banking, see if one of your Group Reunion or Cursillo friends can assist, or ask your Parish Office to assist. Part of our coming together and sharing should also include assisting one another, putting our Apostolic Action into action.



Prayer from National Spiritual Advisor



Good morning everyone,

I pray you are enjoying as fine a winter's day as we are in Tasmania.

In the last few weeks I have been pastorally caring for a number of families hurting and broken through death, illness and family breakdowns with separation and arguments which prompted me to base my prayer for July on family unity.

Please share in your newsletters, small group reunions, billboards and email lists.

Our family institutions need prayer and encouragement to forgive and be forgiven.

Abundant blessings on your day

Jane

**Rev'd Jane Lamont
National Spiritual Advisor – Cursillo Australia**

"But as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord." (Joshua 24:15b)

Father you created us to be in a family community. We thank you for those who are so blessed that live in harmony and peace within their families. Preserve our good relationships, Father, whenever we are with our beloved families. Let peace reign in our homes and let compassion fill each of our hearts.

There are times when we let anger, strife, and bitterness rule over our hearts and because of this, we end up hurting our families. We pray for restoration for those families that are fractured by hurts and disappointments. Teach us forgiveness and heal the bonds that have been broken.

Dear God, we commit to you those in our families who have fallen sick. Touch them with Your Healing Hands, Lord. Send forth your Word and heal their diseases.

Father God, we come before You today to ask for your protection over our families. Let no trouble fall on them today. Keep them away from accidents. Allow no evil to influence their hearts. Cover them with the precious blood of Christ.

For those who have no family, we pray Lord that you will lead them into relationships that are nurturing, loving and supportive. May your Church family surround and uphold them.

We pray these things in the name of our Lord and Brother, Jesus

Amen



Go electronic—message from The Editor



The Encourager and The Newcastle Cursillo Guidelines

Dear Cursillistas,

I trust you are enjoying reading the information and viewing the photos included in this edition of *The Encourager*.

Go Electronic!

Both *The Encourager* and the *Newcastle Cursillo Guidelines* are available on the Newcastle Cursillo Website www.cursillonewcastle.org.au

Please consider changing the way you receive and read both *The Encourager* and the *Newcastle Cursillo Guidelines*.

Keep in mind the time and increasing costs involved in the printing and posting of hard copies.

Consider the environment and the amount of paper needed to run off hard copies of these documents.

Receiving your copy of *The Encourager* via email or by accessing the copy on the website is the way forward.



Options to consider:

- if you need a hard copy to read, then you can print the copy from the email
- If you don't have a printer, ask your Cursillo friends or your parish office to assist

If you do not have an email address you are able to continue to receive your copy of *The Encourager* by mail.

Please ensure your contact details are up to date. An incorrect postal address, email address and phone number may mean you are not receiving your copy of *The Encourager* or keeping up to date with the latest news.

Please email me if you have any news items or Deanery updates you would like to place in *The Encourager*.

De colores,

Noreen Robertson
The Editor

encourager@cursillonewcastle.org.au





WELCOME TO NEW VETERANS MEN'S 49 CURSILLO

Men's theme: "In Christ Alone My Hope is Found"



WELCOME





WELCOME TO NEW VETERANS MEN'S 49 CURSILLO

Men's theme: "In Christ Alone My Hope is Found"



My memories of M49 Cursillo Weekend evoke feelings of joy and exhilaration. Joy, that our team bonded so well throughout the two years of training and over the Weekend itself. I could truly see God's Spirit working in all that we did and through the challenges we faced at times. My emotions of exhilaration came through the manner in which the candidates responded to what was presented to them over the three days. The candidates varied widely in ages and backgrounds but they blended in well with the Team.

A poem entitled "The Difference" by Grace Naessens was written over 80 years ago, it is appropriate to our current time. So many things compete for our attention. Tasks at home, work, and life takes our free time in a way that it seems that there are not enough hours in the day. Sometimes, we need to take time to make time! Though life will happen, God will help us adjust and navigate through it.

"The Difference" by Grace Naessens.

I got up early one morning
And rushed right into the day:
I had so much to accomplish
That I didn't have time to pray.

Problems just tumbled about me,
And heavier came each task.
"Why doesn't God help me?"
I wondered, He answered,
"You didn't ask."

I wanted to see joy and beauty, but
The day toiled on grey and bleak,

I wondered why God didn't show
me; He said" you, didn't seek."

I tried to come into God's presence;
I used all my keys at the lock.
God gently and lovingly chided,
"My child you didn't knock."

I woke up early this morning, and
Paused before entering the day;
I had so much to accomplish
That I had to take time to pray.

God Bless, Brian Taylor (LD M49)

Candidates	Parish
Thomas Randall	Branxton/Lochinvar
Frank Sehlmeier	Wyong
James Hyde	Kotara
Trevor Smith	East Lakes
Greg Harris	Wyong
Robin Adair	Nelson Bay
Rob Lewis	Lambton
Robert Osborne	Wyong



WELCOME TO NEW VETERANS WOMEN'S 49 CURSILLO

Women's theme: "I Am Carried" - Bible Verse: Isaiah 63:9

Candidates	Parish
Barbara Randall	Branxton/Lochinvar
Donna McCann	New Lambton
Keren Beverly	Kotara South
Rev Melinda McMahon	Southlakes
Elizabeth Bissaker	Southlakes
Jennifer Dacombe	Southlakes
Chelsea Bailey.	Branxton/Lochinvar

Joan Burnett	Nelson Bay
Yolanda Vanderpol	Charmhaven
Lynnette Drysdale	Wyong
Brenda Campbell.	Glenrock
Denise Calloway.	Wyong
Jann Lockett	Glenrock
Anne Cook	Glenrock
Annie Harris	Wyong

W49 Cursillo Weekend was finally held on 2nd to 5th June 2022 with 15 amazing candidates. It seemed like it would never happen at times. Our theme was "I Am Carried" from the Footprints poem. The team was certainly carried through the 3 years of training because of Covid, we had lockdowns, illness, family deaths, births and a marriage. Through all this the team remained committed to becoming a team committed to serving the candidates of W49. The goal of the weekend was to give the candidates a true Cursillo Experience; giving them the tools to understand the love of Jesus and how He works in their lives. Unfortunately, we had 1 team member test positive for Covid on the Friday morning which meant we had to have RAT tests everyday and wear masks all weekend. We were certainly being carried by grace. Everyone accepted these restrictions and pulled together to make sure candidates were able to continue in the Cursillo experience. I would like to thank Noelene and her team of helpers for their work on the weekend organising the meals. As was seen and heard at Clausura, the Holy Spirit was certainly at work throughout the weekend. Mananita was very special, outside early in the morning watching the magnificent "sunset" (sunrise) it was a very spiritual experience for everyone. Looking back over the last 3 years of training and the weekend I can see that we were definitely ***Carried in the Arms of Grace and Love Divine.***

De Colores

Lorraine Phillips W19
(LD W49)



WELCOME



WELCOME TO NEW VETERANS WOMEN'S 49 CURSILLO

Women's theme: "I Am Carried" - Bible Verse: Isaiah 63:9





**Make a friend.
Be a friend.
Bring a friend
to Christ.**



The Editor is looking for ways that this publication can add to the Cursillo experience of every Cursillista across the Diocese.

Would you like to share your Cursillo weekend story? Or your Fourth Day journey or Group Reunion experience?

How is your Deanery going? How can this publication help support and encourage each Deanery to be creative and vital in their outreach to Cursillistas in their Deanery?

ULTREYA

Are you able to attend Ultreyas? Do you need support? Is distance the issue? Is concern with regards to the current pandemic preventing you or someone you know from gathering together in small groups?

Be creative. Think about how to organise ways Ultreyas and/or Group Reunions can be done. For example via Zoom or through a phone call. Be creative, then share how your group achieved this.

Are you in a Group Reunion? Ask your Parish and/or Deanery contact to assist you in becoming a member of a Group Reunion?

**GROUP
REUNION**



Joy of Giving—are you able to make a contribution towards the M50 and/or W50 weekends for 2023?

Your contribution will go towards supporting a candidate and/or a team member who is unable to meet the full cost of the weekend



The Editor would welcome short contributions from Cursillistas to this publication, along with a photo if possible.

Send your contribution via email: encourager@cursillonewcastle.org.au



Diary Dates for 2022

Women Celebrating our Faith

8th October

New Lambton

Diocesan Ultreya

4th November

MICA Mayfield

SECRETARIAT MEETINGS NEW LAMBTON @ 7PM

August 2nd; September 6th; October 4th;
November 1st with Bishop; December 6th Christmas Tea.

SERVANT COMMUNITY DATES

Ultreya Dates

Sunday September 4th @ 2pm @ East Lake Macquarie (venue TBA)

Friday October 14th @ 6pm for 6:30pm @ Kotara South

Diocesan Ultreya

Saturday November 5th @ 9:30am @ Mayfield

ULTREYA'S

All Saints New Lambton Ultreya Friday 15th July 2022

The hall was very warm and welcoming for those "brave folk" who ventured out on what for Newcastle was a cool 8 degrees outside!

As usual, our hosts at New Lambton were very welcoming even though we had a considerable number of apologies due to people being impacted by COVID or being away on holiday or other commitments.

Our leader for the evening was Ella Means who was quietly efficient as usual. The IT was operated by Liz O'Sullivan. The PowerPoint was a great help for the evening. Our muso was Noreen Robertson.

Geoff Scully in his Witness Talk spoke of his challenges in his faith journey. He felt very nervous about speaking. What impressed me, and our Spiritual Director for the evening, Rev'd Paul Robertson, was his practical, down-to-earth focus for his faith. Geoff valued greatly his journey and his opportunity to grow in his study and fellowship with others.

His talk reminded me of a passage from Paul's (St Paul that is!) letter to the Galatians. We sometimes fall into the trap of comparing ourselves - our giftedness - with the skills of others. God calls us to be good stewards of our gifts - pride can deceive.

3 If anyone thinks they are something when they are not, they deceive themselves.

4 Each one should test their own actions. Then they can take pride in themselves alone, without comparing themselves to someone else, 5 for each one should carry their own load. (Gal 6.3-5)(NIV)

Even though we were small in number, the Group Reunion and the fellowship of the evening was important and very rewarding for those who were able to come. We were indeed encouraged. Ultreya, Rev'd Chris Bullock ,Newcastle Deanery Contact



ULTREYA'S

Cardiff/ Glenrock Ultreya

The anticipation was palpable as we drifted into the light and airy Saint Thomas Church on Friday evening, April 1st. Rosemary Menhenick lead the Ultreya, with Brian Taylor giving the witness talk. Brian reminded us of the power of witnessing and journeying with people in our lives, 'make a friend, be a friend, bring a friend to Jesus'. He encouraged us to recall those in our lives who had inspired, supported, and set good examples for us to follow. Reverend Gary Atherton was the Spiritual Adviser. Robert Joice's music uplifted us to worship the Lord in song. Karen Atherton looked after the IT. We were able to share warm fellowship during refreshments, and Group Reunion. The evening closed with Compline. As we departed the car park many of us exclaimed the pleasure of the return of Ultreyas.

De Colores!

Lake Macquarie Servant Community

St. James, Wyong Ultreya 25th June 2022

"Rejoice in the Lord always, for His Love endures forever"

A great day was had by all at St. James Anglican Church, Wyong on Saturday 25th June 2022. Seeing all the old and new Cursillo veterans, the glorious sunny day and the Cursillo rainbow colours reflecting through the stained-glass windows onto the floor. The Holy Spirit was definitely among each of us. Leonie Toovey led the Ultreya, with Jon Hale and Denise Callaway sharing the music. Jan Garrard gave us a stirring witness talk to rouse us to fill the Diocese with new Cursillistas into the future. The singing, fellowship and group re-union was the highlight of the day and off-course my Sam's presence with us. Rosemary Gillham gave the Spiritual Director's response. The attendance was great, with 40 present. Cursillo has been an important part of my life and hope it is for you as well.

Love and De Colores,

Noeline,

Central Coast Deanery Contact.



What is happening in your Deanery? Please keep in touch.
Send in an article and some photos for the next edition of *The Encourager* to The Editor:
encourager@cursillonewcastle.org.au

KEEP UP WITH WHAT'S HAPPENING

USE OUR CURSILLO WEBSITE

Communications are paramount; one very easy way to keep in touch with Cursillo is to utilise our

Cursillo website: www.cursillonewcastle.org.au.

Here are a few ways to do it...

Simplest way is go to website & SUBSCRIBE – *Scroll down to bottom of screen & you can subscribe to the site (at no cost) & you will be notified of all news or update information by email*

The following is **a more detailed guide which you can keep & look at while navigating the website:-**

Access via desktop or laptop Computer you will see several headings -

HOME – This will show the four (4) latest posts to the site and if you click on the picture you will be taken to another screen with more information about that article.

ABOUT – If you click on this you will see a drop-down menu which includes:

Details of Secretariat; Glossary (*explaining a few Cursillo terms*); Sponsor Guidelines; Contributions – click on any one for more info.

DIARY – List of current dates (*which you can scroll through and mark in your diaries*).

STUDIES – Just a few ideas.

NEWCASTLE ANGLICAN CURSILLO GUIDELINES - The latest version of the Guidelines includes information about the structure of Cursillo in the Newcastle Diocese; Secretariat; pastoral plan; faithfulness in service statement; code of meeting practice; how to run an Ultreya; how to prepare a witness talk; Mananita; Clausura; Servant Community; Deanaries and Parishes; banking information; and lots more. **Check it out!**

NEWS – Updates on events and activities.

ENCOURAGER – All the current and back copies; **new email address: encourager@cursillonewcastle.org.au**

LINKS – Includes important links to other Cursillo and Anglican sites:

(including link to Anglican Cursillo National website and Facebook page).

FORMS – Application Forms and Miscellaneous forms.

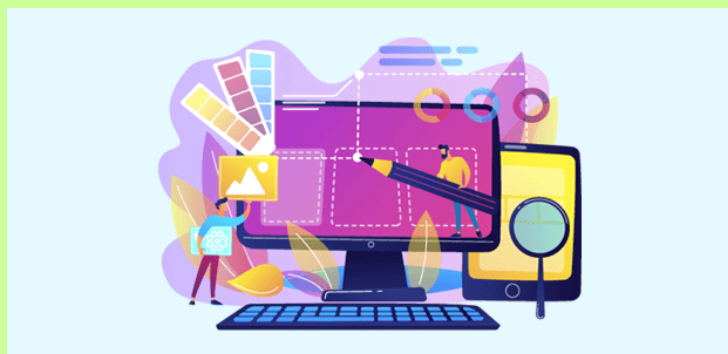
CONTACT – Contacts the Web Editor: Jim Warland.

SUBSCRIBE – *Scroll down to bottom of screen and you can subscribe to the site (at no cost) and you will be notified of all news or update information by email.*

Access via Mobile Phone or iPad etc. – Scroll down and you will see:

- the four(4) latest posts to the site (*access as above*)
- Recent Posts
- Quicklinks to other pages
- Categories – links to other pages
- Subscribe via email (as above)
- ALL OTHER PAGES can also be accessed through the drop-down menu at the top of the Home screen.

Website Coordinator: Jim Warland



Women Celebrating Our Faith
FAITH GROWS

8th October 2022

10:00 am

All Saints Anglican Church
Corner St James Road and Regent Street
New Lambton

**For we are God's fellow workers.
You are God's field.**

You are God's building.

1 Corinthians 3:9



What then is Apollos? What is Paul?

Servants through whom you came to believe, as the Lord assigned to each.

I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the growth.

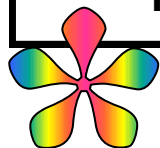
So neither the one who plants nor the one who waters is anything, but only the God who gives the growth.

The one who plants and the one who waters have a common purpose, and each will receive wages according to the labour of each.

For we are God's servants, working together; you are God's field, God's building.

1 Corinthians 3:5-9

DIRECTORY of DEANERIES, DEANERY CONTACTS and PARISH CONTACTS



IMPORTANT!

Please notify
Diocesan Lay Director's
and

Editorial Committee if details change.



NEWCASTLE

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Adamstown *POSITION OPEN*

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