

21st – 27th December

Fourth Sunday of Advent

Study

Then Mary said, "Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word."

Luke 1.38a

Action

- Encourage extended family members to attend Christmas services
- Be joyful and generous

Pray For

- An open heart to listen to God's purpose for you
- Peace in our world
- Safe holidays



Christ is counting on you



**NEWCASTLE
ANGLICAN
CURSILLO**



2014

**APOSTOLIC
ACTION**





Dearest Lord, teach me to be generous;
Teach me to serve the as thou deserves;
To give and not to count the cost,
To fight and not to seek for rest,
To labour and not to seek reward,
Save that of knowing that I do thy will.

St Ignatius of Loyola

The 'action' section 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

30th November - 6th December

First Sunday of Advent

Study

Then they will see 'the Son of Man coming in clouds' with great power and glory. Then he will send out the angels, and gather his elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven.

Mark 13.26-27

Action

- Begin an Advent Bible study
- Give an extra donation to a missionary agency
- Attend the Ordination

Pray For

- Remembering Nicholas Ferrar, priest and missionary 1506-1552 (4th) pray for missionaries who will not be with their families this Christmas
- All missionaries and those they serve

7th - 13th December

Second Sunday of Advent

Study

The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.

Mark 1.1

Action

- Help with the church's preparations for Christmas
- Give a gift of a book telling the Christmas story to a family
- Hold a special event for new members in your congregation
- Continue to support Samaritans Christmas food appeal

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

14th - 20th December

Third Sunday of Advent

Study

The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

John 1.9

Action

- Invite a neighbor or family member to a church carol service
- Attend local public carol service
- Offer transport to the Christmas services
- Visit a 'shut in' person

Pray For

- Families who are suffering financial stress
- People whose loved ones are far away

9th - 15th November

Twenty-second Sunday after Pentecost

Study

Keep awake therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour.

Matthew 25.13

Action

- Investigate ways to support the Samaritans Christmas appeal
- Find a way to support your local clergy
- Prepare a list of people 'not to forget' at Christmas time

Pray For

- Remembering Charles Simeon, priest and evangelist, d.461 (12th) pray for your local clergy and their evangelistic role
- A greater desire to learn more about the gospel

16th – 22nd November

Twenty-third Sunday after Pentecost

Study

For you yourselves know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night.

1 Thessalonians 5.2

Action

- In you Group Reunion group prepare a plan of action for supporting the needy in your community this Christmas
- Support Samaritans Christmas food appeal
- Assist with the children's end of year activities

Pray For

- Those to be Ordained
- Remembering Hilda of Whitby, abbess d.680 (17th) pray for all who inspire others in their Christian journey

23rd – 29th November

Christ The King

Study

For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.

Matthew 25.35-36

Action

- Can you offer hospitality to someone over Christmas
- Is there some way to support the Kairos movement?
- Send a message of support to our prison chaplains

Pray For

- Remembering 'James Noble', pioneer Aboriginal Deacon d.1941 (25th) pray for Aboriginal clergy and ministry with Aboriginal people
- Aboriginal ministry in our diocese
- The prison ministries of our church

1st – 4th January

Naming and Circumcision

Study

Then Simeon blessed them and said to his mother Mary, "This child is destined for the falling and rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be opposed, so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed."

Luke 2.34-35a

Action

- Plan new study programs for the year
- Check if parish information needs updating

Pray for

- Remembering 'Eliza Hassal', CMS Missionary in the Middle East d1917 (2nd) pray for the Christians of the middle East and peace in that area
- Renewed listening for the call of God in our lives

5th – 11th January

Epiphany

Study

Wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, asking, "Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and we have come to pay him homage." Matthew 2.1b-2

Action

- Send letters of encouragement for the new year to members of your parish ministry teams
- Check if neighbours need assistance during holiday times

Pray for

- Wisdom in the church's decision making
- Wisdom in the Cursillo Movement's decision making

12th - 18th January

Baptism of Our Lord – First Sunday after Epiphany

Study

And when Jesus also had been baptized just as he came up from the water, suddenly the heavens were open to him and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting on him. And a voice from heaven, said "This is my Son, the Beloved, with whom I am well pleased."

Matthew 3.16-17

Action

- Check if the parishes Baptism program needs any support
- Contact any God children

Pray for

- For all Christian counselors in their work

19th - 25th January

Second Sunday after Epiphany

Study

The next day he saw Jesus coming toward him and declared, "Here is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world! John 1.29

Action

- Send a card/message to any children you know for a good year at school
- Invite a friend to 'Back to Church Sunday'
- Can you assist with children's ministries

Pray for

- Remembering 'the companions of Paul, including Timothy, Titus and Silas (24th)' pray for all who support us in our ministry
- Renewed sense of community in Australia
- Refugees around the world

26th January – 1st February

Third Sunday after Epiphany

Study

Jesus went throughout Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the good news of the kingdom and curing every disease and every sickness among the people. Matthew 4.23

Action

- Attend Installation of Bishop Greg
- 'International Day of commemoration in memory of the victims of the Holocaust' (27th) . Research a holocaust victims story

Pray for

- Remembering John Chrysostom Bishop of Constantinople d407 (27th), pray for the enthronement of our new Bishop Greg
- Pray for the theological students in our Diocese
- All institutions of learning

2rd - 8th February

Fourth Sunday after Epiphany

Study

Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

Matthew 5.9

Action

- Attend the enthronement of Bishop Greg
- Is there someone you need to make peace with?
- Is there some way you can be involved in action for peace?

Pray for

19th - 25th October

Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Study

For we know, brothers and sisters beloved by God, that he has chosen you, because our message of the gospel came to you not in word only, but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with full conviction.

1 Thessalonians 1.4-5a

Action

- Is there a way of assisting asylum seekers in your community
- Lobby government bodies for humane treatment of asylum seekers
- The 24th is 'United Nations Day' research the work of the United Nations in countries close to us

Pray For

- Diocesan synod
- The work of the United Nations and asylum seekers

26th October – 1st November

Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost

Study

'You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.' Matthew 22.37b

Action

- Attend Diocesan Ultreya 1st—Taree
- Send a message of support to a cancer sufferer
- 'Pink Ribbon' day. Can you support an event

Pray For

- Remembering 'Martin Luther', reformer d.1546 (31st) pray for all who seek to make changes for the better
- The vision of our diocese
- All cancer sufferers and those who care for them

2nd - 8th November

Twenty-first Sunday after Pentecost

Study

All who exalt themselves will be humbled, and all who humble themselves will be exalted. Matthew 23.12

Action

- Invite someone who has lost a loved one to attend the 'All Soul's Day' service
- Write to someone who has lost a loved one in the last year

Pray For

- Departed members of your family
- Those who are grieving
- Remember 4th is the day for Anglicans and Roman Catholics to pray for one another

- Pray for the persecuted Christians of the world
- Diocesan Council and their planning for the year

2nd – 8th March

Last Sunday after Epiphany

Study

You cannot serve *God* and wealth.

Matthew 6.24b

Action

- How can you support the Samaritans Foundation?
- Contribute to the food stocks of your parish pantry for the needy
- Singleton Regional Renewal Day—attend if you can
- Do you need to reconsider your spending habits?

Pray for

- Remembering ‘John of God’, d.1550 (8th)and his work among the poor pray for all who work among the poor
- The Samaritans foundation
- Regional Renewal day

9th - 15th March

First Sunday in Lent

Study

But he answered, “It is written, ‘One does not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.’”

Matthew 4.4

Action

- Contact someone who has had a recent bereavement
- Is there some way you can support the bereavement ministry of your church?

Pray for

- Farmers who produce our grain and bakers that bake our bread
- Those who have died recently

16th – 22nd March

Second Sunday in Lent

Study

Jesus answered, “Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and spirit. What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit.” John 3.5-6

Action

- Attend a St Patrick's Day event
- It's ‘Seniors Week’ –prepare or attend an activity for seniors in your community
- ‘International Day of Happiness’, make a special effort to make someone happy

- Remembering the ‘Martyrs of New Guinea’, d.1942 pray for the people of PNG, that they may have peace and security
- The work of the church especially in AIDS awareness and amongst AIDS victims

7th - 13th September

Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Study

For when two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them.

Matthew 18.20

Action

- 10th September is World Suicide Prevention Day is there someone suffering from depression that you can help
- Is there someone who could talk to your church group about suicide prevention

Pray for

- Remembering ‘Mother Esther CHN’, d.1931 founder of the Community of The Holy Name (Melbourne) (11th) pray for all Religious Communities in Australia
- Those suffering from depression

14th – 20th September

Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Study

So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart. Matthew 18.35

Action

- Is it possible to attend national Cursillo Gathering in October?
- Write a message of encouragement to an isolated parish
- Is there someone I need to forgive?

Pray for

- Remembering ‘John Oliver Feetham’, bishop and bush brother d.1947 (15th) pray for the isolated parishes in our country
- For the clergy who minister in isolated communities

21st – 27th September

Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Study

Only, live your life in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ.

Philippians 1.27a

Action

- Attend W44 Welcome Day
- Find out who are the most needy in your community and find a way of supporting them
- 21st is International Day of Peace, what action of peace can you be involved in

Pray for

- Remembering the '20th Century Martyrs', especially Martin Luther King Jr (d.1968) pray for all who seek justice
- Agencies throughout the world who work for justice

17th – 23rd August

Tenth Sunday after Pentecost

Study

If the part of the dough offered as first fruits is holy, then the whole batch is holy; and if the root is holy, then the branches are also holy.

Romans 11.16

Action

- It's International Day for Remembrance of the Slave Trade and it's Abolition (23rd). Research current statistics on the slave trade. Is there an action you can take
- Attend Diocesan Convention

Pray for

- Those who are slaves in our world today
- Bishop Greg and Bishop Peter
- W44 Cursillo

24th – 30th August

Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost

Study

Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God - what is good and acceptable and perfect.

Romans 12.2

Action

- Read some writings on prayer
- Share some new learning about the Christian faith with a friend
- Write a message of encouragement to the Bishop or your local clergy

Pray for

- Remembering 'Augustine of Hippo', Bishop and teacher (28th) pray for all Bishop's in their teaching roles
- That we may be able to discern the will of God in our lives

31st August - 6th September

Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost

Study

For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it.

Matthew 16.25

Action

- 5th September is International day of Charity—make a donation to Samaritans
- Research current aids statistics

Pray for

- The vision of our Diocese

Pray for

- Our minds to be attuned to the Spirit working in our lives
- Remembering St Patrick (17th) pray for peace in Ireland

23rd – 29th March

Third Sunday in Lent

Study

Therefore, since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ .

Romans 5.1

Action

- Invite a friend to the Easter services
- Attend 'Lady Day' service at the cathedral 25th
- Do young neighbours need assistance with their children?

Pray for

- Remembering the Annunciation to the blessed Virgin Mary (25th) pray for pregnant women
- That parents may have a responsible attitude in carrying out their parental duties

30th March – 5th April

Fourth Sunday in Lent

Study

The Lord is my shepherd:

therefore can I lack nothing

Psalm 23.1

Action

- Women—Plan to attend Women Celebrating Our Faith weekend—invite a friend to go with you
- Prepare a meal and take it to a new mother
- 1st April is 'National Smile Day'—Join in

Pray for

- Those experiencing great sadness in their lives
- For all of those women unable to have children

6th - 12th April

Fifth Sunday in Lent

Study

Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die."

John 11.25-26a

Action

- Offer to transport an elderly person to an appointment
- Can you help make Palm crosses ready for next week?
- Invite someone to attend the Palm Sunday service
-

Pray for

- Those studying for the Bishop's Certificate and the Bishop's Diploma
- Remembering 'George Augustus Selwyn, first Missionary Bishop of New Zealand (11th) pray for the work of the church among indigenous peoples

13th – 19th April

Sunday of the Passion/Palm Sunday

Study

Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus. Philippians 2.5

Action

- Distribute some palm crosses to some friends, especially children and explain their significance
- Attend church daily this week
- Attend the 'Oils Eucharist' in your area

Pray for

- Those who have lost their way in their Christian journey
- Peace in the hearts of those who seek revenge

20th - 26th April

Easter Day

Study

So if you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. Colossians 3.1

Action

- Attend and Anzac Day service
- Write a message of support for the Bishop
- 26th April is 'World Healing' Day. Can you support the healing ministry of your parish?

Pray for

- The work of our defense forces
- Our bishops and clergy
- All of those suffering as a result of wars

27th April – 3rd May

Second Sunday of Easter

Study

Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you."

John 20.20b-21

Action

- This week is a week of prayer for Christian unity—write some prayers you can share in your Group Reunion
- Research the work of the Christian church in another country and share it with a friend
- 'Fair Trade Fortnight' begins 3rd May—Does your church sell Fair Trade products? Look for Fair Trade products in your supermarket

Pray for

- Remembering 'Mary Magdalene', (22nd) pray for all women who work in a support role to influential people
- Our politicians
- The faithful men and women who have been an example to us

27th July – 2nd August

Seventh Sunday after Pentecost

Study

The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which someone found and hid; then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field. Matthew 13.44

Action

- 'Anglican Women Sunday' find a way of showing your appreciation for the work of the women of your church
- Plan to attend a retreat and ask someone to go with you
- It's International day of Friendship (30th) Invite a friend to church—have a special morning tea

Pray for

- Remembering 'Martha and Mary' pray for the work of women in the church
- Friends
- Those who have no friends

3rd - 9th August

Eighth Sunday after Pentecost

Study

I call upon you O God, for you will surely answer:

incline your ear to me, and hear my words.

Psalms 17.6

Action

- Prepare palanca for W44
- It's International Day of the World's Indigenous Peoples (9th) - can you support the local Aboriginal Women's refuge
- Plan to attend Diocesan Convention

Pray for

- Remembering 'Mary Sumner', founder of MU d.1921 (9th) pray for the work of MU throughout the world
- Families who are struggling under difficult circumstances

10th - 16th August

Ninth Sunday after Pentecost

Study

For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; the same Lord is Lord of all and is generous to all who call on him. Romans 10.12

Action

- Investigate on of the 20th Century Martyrs
- Visit or write to a local authority on a matter of justice

- Remembering ‘The Coming of The Light’, the first missionaries to the Torres Strait—1871 (1st) Pray for the work of the Church in the Torres Strait.

- Pray for all missionaries who face danger in their missionary work

6th - 12th July

Fourth Sunday after Pentecost

Study

“Come to me, all you that are weary and carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest.”
Matthew 11.28

Action

- Attend a ‘NAIDOC’ week activity
- Research a way to support Aboriginal ministries in the diocese
- Invite an aboriginal group to talk at a church function

Pray for

- The Reconciliation process
- Give thanks for what we have learned from the aboriginal people about caring for the environment

13th – 19th July

Fifth Sunday after Pentecost

Study

But as for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and yields.

Matthew 13.23a

Action

- Take a family fishing or to the aquarium and talk about the diversity of God’s marine creation and our need to conserve it
- Is there a woman you could talk to about attending W44
- ‘Nelson Mandela International Day (18th). Read about his life

Pray for

- Remembering ‘Sea Sunday’, (13th) pray for all who gain their livelihood from the sea
- Conservation of our marine environment
- All who suffer for justice

20th - 26th July

Sixth Sunday after Pentecost

Study

Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father.

Matthew 13.43a

Action

- Visit a person who lives on their own or invite them to a meal
- Is there some way you can help the parish secretary?
- Establish or support your city/country parish link

Pray for

- Christian unity
- Unity in your parish and our Diocese
- Women Celebrating their Faith Weekend

4th - 10th May

Third Sunday of Easter

Study

Then they told what had happened on the road, and how he had been made known in the breaking of the bread. Luke 24.35

Action

- Support the Samaritans winter appeal
- 7th May begins ‘National Mothering’ week—find a way to support a local mother
- Contact any parents/grandparents/ children/grandchildren you haven’t seen for a while

Pray for

- National secretariat Meeting
- Grandparents who raise their grandchildren

11th – 17th 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

- Attend Tri Diocesan Covenant Renewal Service
- Wear red to church and explain to a friend why you are wearing red
- It’s ‘National Volunteer’ week—organize an event to thank volunteers

Pray for

- All volunteers
- Living waters of the spirit to flow through our church and our Cursillo movement
- Pray for the Cursillo Secretariat and commissioning of W44

18th – 24th May

Fifth Sunday of Easter

Study

Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me.”
John 14.1

Action

- Contact three people this week that need encouragement
- Invite someone to attend the Eucharist with you
- National Reconciliation Week - Is there someone you need to reconcile with

Pray for

- Remembering John d.1791 and Charles d.1788 Wesley (24th) pray

- for efforts of evangelism in our parishes
- Pray for all ordained clergy in their sacramental role

25th – 31st May

Sixth Sunday of Easter

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

- Invite a group of people from different denominations to a BBQ

Pray for

- Week of Prayer for Reconciliation' begins 27th,
- Week of prayer for Christian Unity begins 29th pray for increased understanding and unity in the Christian churches
- Our relations with our neighbouring churches

1st – 7th June

Seventh Sunday of Easter

Study

Now they know that everything you have given me is from you; for the words you gave to me I have given to them, and they have received them and know in truth that I come from you; and they have believed that you sent me.

John 17.7-8

Action

- Research ways to support the ministries of our missionary agencies
- Write a letter of support to the Sudanese congregation in Newcastle

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
- The Sudanese congregation in our Diocese

8th - 14th June

Day of Pentecost

Study

As the scripture has said, 'Out of the believer's heart shall flow rivers of living water.' Now he said this about the Spirit, which believers in him were to receive.

John 7.38b-39a

Action

- Wear red to church
- 12th is 'World Day Against Child Labour'—Can you be involved in action against child labour?
- Central coast Regional Renewal Day—attend if possible

Pray for

- Remembering 'Columba of Iona', d.597 (9th) give thanks for the heritage of the Celtic church and the continued work at Iona
- Children who are forced to work and those who seek to rescue them

15th – 21st June

Trinity Sunday

Study

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with all of you. 2 Corinthians 13.13

Action

- Can you assist in your parish's social outreach program?
- Plant some bulbs to bloom in the spring with a child and talk about growth and God's creation with them
- 21st June is 'World Music' day. Listen to some spiritual music

Pray for

- Ourselves to hear the call of God in our lives
- The mission of our Local church

22nd – 28th June

Second Sunday after Pentecost

Study

Those who find their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it.

Matthew 10.39

Action

- Talk to a new parent about Baptism and the meaning of Baptism
- Support the Baptism support program of your parish
- 27th June is 'Red Nose Day', offer support to the mother of a new baby

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

29th June - 5th July

Third Sunday after Pentecost

Study

And whoever gives even a cup of cold water to one of these little ones in the name of a disciple - truly I tell you, none of these will lose their reward.

Matthew 10.42

Action

- Check if you have any neighbours in need
- Take a hot meal to a 'shut in' person
- Contribute to the parishes Pantry for the needy

Pray for