

Sunday 5 January—Epiphany

## Holy Name Catholic Parish

DIOCESE OF BROKEN BAY

35 Billyard Avenue Wahroonga 2076

Web | [www.holynamewahroonga.com.au](http://www.holynamewahroonga.com.au)



### Welcome!

A very warm welcome to anyone visiting our parish. It is good to have you with us. If you have any questions or would like to know more about our community at Holy Name please visit our parish website at [www.holynamewahroonga.com.au](http://www.holynamewahroonga.com.au).

### New Year's Day Homily by Fr David

Just before I left Melbourne twenty years ago, I enjoyed lunch with some friends including the Australian artist, Michael Leunig. We fell to talking about the culture of Sydney to which I was headed, and, given the time of the year, the conversation turned to Sydney's forthcoming new year's celebrations and the obsession that Sydney has for the "bigger and better" fireworks display every year. "What must Sydney be hiding from?" was the comment of Leunig's that I recall so clearly. The memory of his observation haunted me last night as the insistence on the Harbour party triumphed whilst so many were suffering so close by. Personally, I could not celebrate given my anxiety for some dear friends cut off just south of Batemans Bay. Even now it is not possible to know how they have fared given that all telecommunications have been severed. Many of us will be in the same situation. *The Daily Telegraph* might claim, in its own words, that Sydney can show "it can party with a conscience as it combined harbourside fireworks hedonism with a huge display of heart" but I find the juxtaposition unsettling and a rationalization of denial for the immense heartache unfolding only a few kilometers away. Leunig's question to me of 2000 might have been a better commentary to the fireworks last night.

Though some may use political spin to justify the party last evening in terms of hope and inspiration in the midst of chaos, the most refreshing comment from a civic leader I heard yesterday was from Kristie McBain, the Mayor of Bega Valley Shire. When she was asked by a reporter yesterday afternoon, "Can you cope with this, with the scale?" she simply stood there and replied, "I don't know." It was an admission of reality. Its simplicity and truthfulness were, for me, the most hopeful and inspiring comments that any leader made yesterday. We do not know. This is our truth. This new decade starts with this profound recognition, honest and simple as it is: we do not know. It starts with our sense of fragility before the power of nature, our powerlessness before drought and fire, our thirst for rain. We have a profound concern about our climate which now presents as an unavoidable question. There is no room for false optimism, only a sober sense of reality. The new decade starts with questions which cannot be answered. We begin it mindful of Mary the Mother of Jesus, the one who has brought forth a new possibility for our world. But the figure of Mary that is given us on this day is, in fact, of the one who lives with a question. She is given a Son about whom there is a profound question. She holds all this in her heart, pondering and wondering. She is not given an easy answer. The question unsettles her, disturbs her, it prises open her heart. It is the image of Mary that has stayed with me since my own visit to Nazareth where I discovered the church of Mary's Well. Tradition has it that it was at the village well where Mary was first visited by the angel. So disturbed was she by the encounter, that she ran back to her house to be encountered for a second time by the angel as it is recorded in the actual text of the Gospel. Mary begins her life as mother with a question, as does every mother really. However, as the Mother of the One who brings such a new possibility into the world, Mary is the Mother of all our questions. She holds and nurtures them. She is our companion in the midst of all that unsettles us, gently calling us forth to live into the answer to what troubles our hearts – the answer we cannot reach easily or without a journey of spirit and heart. We need her maternal care in such a particular way as we start this year, this decade. We start the year with a question. We start the year without the confidence of knowing how everything will unfold. Mary teaches us by her heart that our foundation is our trust in the God of a Promise. She is one of the *anawim*, the people in Israel who have learnt through their suffering to put their trust in God even in the face of their situation presenting as it might with such little reason for celebration. It purifies and refines her heart, as our hearts become too when we are led into hers.

We recognize her dependency on God. But a dependency on God always forces us back to realize our dependence on one another. And today we are especially mindful of what most genuinely gives us hope and inspiration – not a dazzling display of fireworks, but the sheer generosity and courage of so many who are giving their lives to keep communities safe. We think of the firefighters who have died, most recently Sam McPaul in Albury, but also of those who continue to give of themselves to defend life and property, and the thousands of emergency services men and women who are working today with communities devastated not just by the destruction of property but also by the anxiety suffered in the face of the disaster in which they have discovered themselves. If anything gives us hope as we begin a new decade it is the witness of these anonymous men and women. This day let us truly ponder and treasure their generosity and sense of service that displays what is most good, most human, most real. We do not know how this decade will unravel. We do not know how this year will unfold. We do not know how this summer will resolve. We do not know what this current disaster will reveal. We do know that someone hold us in our questions. We do know that we have a capacity to reach out and be with those in trouble. What we do know is what will give us our stepping-stones into the future – honestly and simply.

## Parish Masses This Week

Monday	6 January	No Mass	Weekday of Christmas Time
Tuesday	7 January	9.15am Mass	Weekday of Christmas Time
Wednesday	8 January	9.15am Mass	Weekday of Christmas Time
Thursday	9 January	9.15am Mass	Weekday of Christmas Time
Friday	10 January	9.15am Mass	Weekday of Christmas Time
Saturday	11 January	5.00pm Mass	Vigil Mass for the Baptism of the Lord
Sunday	12 January	9.15am and 5.30pm	The BAPTISM of the LORD

## Please Remember in your Prayers

### RECENTLY DECEASED:

Geoffrey Ranson (Fr David's father, died 15 December aged 88 years), Helen McKeon (Fr Jim McKeon's mother, died 10 December, aged 86), Colin Randazzo, (the father of Bishop Anthony died Saturday 7 December), Brian O'Brien (husband of Denese and father of Marianne, Paul, and Jenny, died 16 November), Mark Wilkinson (cousin of Pam Gallagher, died aged 55 years), Eileen "Lyle" Stollery (Gabrielle Flood's sister, aunt of Gemma Couch and Martin Flood, died 20th October).

### ANNIVERSARIES:

Lucy Machado (mother of Tony - anniversary 13 January), Margaret Couch (Paul's mother 2nd anniversary on 25 December) Mario Severino (14th anniversary, 26 December), Joseph Sydney McElhenny (1st anniversary 3 January), Elisha Foti (7th anniversary on 4 January), Emile Nassar (9th anniversary on 6 January), Ricki Hayes, (friend of Cecilia Kean, 2nd anniversary on 7 January), Tim O'Brien (son of Paul and Jenny, 4th anniversary on 8 January), Bettina Luca (8th anniversary on 7 January) and Amedeo (Laurie) Luca (23rd anniversary on 8 January -parents of Greg Luca and Daniela McGrath), Charlie Deguara (husband of Sue and father to Brendan, Ben, Sam and Jared, 1st anniversary 20 December), Doreen Mary Fox, (mother of Julie McElhenny 4th anniversary on 20 December), Joe DeGuara, (father of Damian, 2nd anniversary on 19 December), Hilda May Cutler (Grandmother of Jennifer Gregory, 50th anniversary on 24 December), George Thornton (2nd anniversary on 15 December), Tony Coutinho (husband of Lucinda, 6th anniversary on 16 December), Terry Goldrick (Chris' father, 5th anniversary on 7 December), Paul Limbers (father of parishioners Jane Watson, Julia Burfitt, Peter and John Limbers, 1st anniversary on 30 November), Marie Shortis (2nd anniversary on 27 November), Frances Sim (2nd anniversary on 30 November), Samir Nader (brother in law of John Kassis, 14th anniversary on 29 November), Brian Priestley (Candy Cosgriff's father, 1st anniversary 10 November), Arie van der Plaats (Sandi Candotti's Dad, 4th anniversary on 13 November), Swarna Perera (Lucian Wijetunga's sister, 2nd anniversary on 14 November), Toufic Kassis (father of John Kassis, 52nd anniversary on 16 November), Ron Young (father of Monica Dinnar, 3rd anniversary 5 November).

### FOR THE SICK:

Conor McCreton, Norma Higgins, Davin and Sharon Ho, Leanne (Sharon's sister), David Waldron (son of Jo and Frank), Mike Tighe, Cyril Littrich, Chris Le Gras, Judith Hodson, Isla Bishop (Grand-daughter of Irene Bishop), James Madden (son of Julie and Chris), Dennis Morgan, Matthew Murney (son in law of Burt Schaafsma), Molly Sheppard, Susie Dunning (sister of Leila McCreton), Gloria Boswell, Mel Vince (Cecilia Kean's Mum), Baby Thomas Joseph Elley, Jacinta Limbers, Peter Reidy, John McGarry, Freya Carney, Peter Brassil (great friend of Helen and Bill Tysoe), Mary Peachy (Brigid Wright's sister), Fr Michael Fallon msc (friend of Patrick Kirkwood), Fran Cuddy (St James Turramurra, KCEA), Steve Ralph, Margaret Woodlands, Helen McGrath (friend of Jo and Frank Waldron), Hildegard McLaughlin, Barbara Dunning, Joan Dell, David Coombes, Liz Rodgers (friend of the Waldrons in Melbourne), Doris Buzinskas, Christopher Anderson, Jim Clayton (Fran's father-in-law), Madeleine Ryan, Gabrielle Flood, Mary Greco (friend of Eleanor Cooray), Grant Jepson, Noeline Mannix, Madeleine Reicher (granddaughter of Patricia Cox), Philip Stanley, Thomas Nash, Donna Lucas, Ross Truda, Frances Hall, Anne Sutcliffe (Walter's wife), Helen Gait (wife of Tom), Lillian Whitty, Mary Gibbs, Chad Walkaden, Noelene Burke, Eunice Spangaro, Maureen Ritchard, Martin McCreton (brother and brother in law of Conor and Leila McCreton), Margaret Hayes, baby Kendal, Reginald Broderick, Denise Waudby (Patrice Buzinskas' sister), Michael Walsh, Caoimhe Browne, Murray Howe, George Dunne.



### Congratulations

to the Praturlon Family  
Sienna Praturlon-Gorman home from Europe  
was baptised on Saturday 4 January 2020.



## Parish Notes



**The Parish Office will be closed  
from 26th December 2019 to  
13th January 2020.**

Jackie will be on leave until Monday, 13th January. The answering machine will be checked regularly should you wish to leave a message.

### A Summer Holiday for our Musicians

We are gifted with the remarkable generosity of many musicians and singers in our Parish! They enable our celebrations to be ones of joy and prayer for which we are profoundly grateful. This year we have decided to revert to a practice of years past—of giving our musicians and singers a holiday during the month of January. During our weekends in January therefore our Masses will have a more simple presentation without music.

Our warm thanks to all our singers and musicians!

**Our Warm Congratulations  
to  
Nina and Alan Amodeo  
who celebrated their 40th Wedding Anniversary  
29 December 2019!**

### Our Parish Feast Day—3 January 2020 Feast of the Holy Name

The Feast of the Holy Name of Jesus has been celebrated in the Roman Catholic Church since the end of the fifteenth century. The celebration has been held on different dates, usually in January. A number of religious communities dedicated to the Holy Name of Jesus have been formed since the Middle Ages. In the 16th century, the Jesuits made the IHS monogram the emblem of their society, by adding a cross over the H and by showing three nails underneath it. A number of Christian prayers refer to the Holy Name. The Jesus prayer, which perhaps dates to the 4th century, is widely used in the Eastern Church. The Litany of the Holy Name used in the Western Church dates to around the late 6th century.

“What is God’s love? It is not something vague, some generic feeling. God’s love has a name and a face: Jesus Christ, Jesus.”

Pope Francis, Angelus Address, 11 August 2013



## Updates on Davin and Sharon

**Davin’s brother has passed on these updates on Davin and Sharon Ho, and Sharon’s sister, Leanne.**

### Tuesday 31 December, day 22.

A good day for all. We managed to get everyone out to the waiting area outside the wards, to have a simple family NYE's dinner party. Obviously there was a lack of dancing involved. Davin has now been officially cleared of the chickenpox, so we no longer need to suit up to go into his room. He wants to sit up in a chair as much as he can. Because he still can't use his hands & legs yet, he needs to be hoisted. He tried to stand, but understandably doesn't have much strength after having been lying down for the past 3 weeks. At the bandage dressings change yesterday, there was no need for any re-grafting which is very good news. The tips of his fingers are still black & crusty and painful at times. But he has regained his appetite. So its going to be curry chicken and lamb stew on the menu soon. Sharon has had a couple of good days since an uncomfortable dressings change on Sunday. A good nurse makes such a big difference. She continues to push herself to walk more and regain her strength. Though mentally strong, she is currently a bit slower in her physical recovery compared to Davin & Sharon. But she will recover at her own pace. Leanne is starting to make preparations for being released from hospital. At the moment, the preference will be to go to a rehab centre that she's comfortable with for a couple of weeks. Every 2-3 days, she will require to come back to the hospital to get her dressings changed. She still requires painkillers otherwise it gets too painful to walk around. Her hands have progressed from bandages to light gloves, though her right hand is still very tender. Fingertips are also still quite charred. One thing we cannot forget is the mental & psychological aspect of the recovery. No doubt, there will be flashbacks and regrets and so many other post trauma related issues. I still find myself randomly re-living events of the past 3 weeks and getting a bit overcome. So I can only guess at what goes through their minds.

### Thurs 2nd January, day 24.

Davin’s PCA (patient controlled analgesic aka "magic puff"), was removed yesterday, and he was put onto oral pain medication, which can take up to 20 mins to take effect. Unfortunately, late in the day, the pain in his hands were really bad and it wasn't time yet for the next dose of medication. So his hands were visibly shaking from the pain. Eventually, a doctor prescribed a shot of morphine for rapid relief, and increased the dosage for his next scheduled round of medication. Which seems to have worked because he was much better today. The occupational therapist has a list of exercises that they should be doing. Davin & Leanne are doing as much as they can, sometimes too much. Sharon tries, but gets tired easily. Leanne got transferred out to a rehab centre today, so the 3 warriors are separated once more. The facilities look nice and the food is apparently much better. The good news is that the rehab centre is 5 mins from where we live. The bad news is that she is by herself again.

I will keep reminding her that she is not alone and that we will be there to help and support her all the way.

**Let us continue to keep Davin, Sharon and Leanne  
all in our prayer**

## Parish Contact Information and Mass Times

Parish Priest	Fr David Ranson VG	david.ranson@bbcatholic.org.au <b>Twitter: @FrDavidRanson</b> <b>Blogsite: davidranson.com.au</b> (homilies posted)
Assistant Priest	Fr Anselam Lakra	anselam.lakra@bbcatholic.org.au
Parish Secretary	Mrs Jackie Thornton	secretary@holynamewahroonga.com.au
Sacramental Coordinator	Mrs Sally Oong	sacrament@holynamewahroonga.com.au
Office Hours	Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday	8.30am—5pm
Phone	(02) 9489 3221	
Postal Address	P O Box 385 Wahroonga NSW 2076	
Prouille School	5 Water Street Wahroonga NSW 2076	
School Principal	Mrs Susan Bevan	
Phone	(02) 9489 3233	
School Website	www.prouilledbb.catholic.edu.au	
Sacristan and Co-ordinator Altar Society	Mrs. Rosalie Talty	
CCD Coordinator	Mrs. Cecilia Kean	
Eucharist Ministry to the Sick Coordinators	Mr. John Boswell; Mr. Chris Madden; Mr. Paul Sutherland (Housebound)	

### Weekend Masses:

Saturday 5.00pm

Sunday 9.15am and 5.30pm.

**Mass on Tuesday to Friday:** 9.15am

Rosary after Mass on Tuesday

Morning Tea after Mass on Wednesday

Special Intercessions/intentions remembered at Friday Mass.

**Friday evening:** Holy Hour from 7.00pm (not in January)

### Mass is also celebrated:

Our Lady of the Rosary Cathedral, Waitara: Monday 9.30am

St Leo's College: Friday 12.55pm during school terms

### Eucharistic Adoration is available in the Aquinas Chapel:

### Baptism:

Every second and fourth Sunday of the month at 11.00am.  
Please make an appointment through the Parish Office

### Marriage:

By appointment, at least six months in advance.

### Sick Calls:

Any time day or night.

Please call 0408 350 885 out of office hours

### Confessions:

Saturday 11.30am or by appointment

### Sacrament of Anointing:

Last Thursday of the month following the 9.15am Mass

### Parish Pastoral and Missionary Council for 2020

Gemma McDermott, Chrissie Goldrick, Tess Denham-Fabry, Tom Waugh,  
Giovanna Flores-Clarke, Ian Edmunds, Samantha Vieira, Sally Oong, Ed Scully, Roger Bohlsen, along with Sue Bevan (Prouille) and  
Vanessa Dillon (St Lucy's) and Terry O'Keefe (St Edmunds)

### Parish Finance Committee

Marinela Mendes, Tony Monardo, Robyn Elizondo, Tim Quilty

### Parish Fundraising Committee

Noel Kean (Chair), Meredith Baume, Anthony Weaver, Lyn Saul, James Toomey

**Thank you for your financial contribution to the support of our Parish Community and its priests—it is very much appreciated.**

- The 1st Collection taken up at Mass goes to the Clergy Remuneration Fund for the financial support of the priests.
- The 2nd Collection taken up at Mass is for the upkeep of the Parish.

We invite you to help our Parish by committing to a Planned Giving scheme. Please see the parish office for the way you can participate in this. Another way to assist our parish is to consider a gift in your will. Your gift of any size will help our parish continue our good works & outreach. Please contact the parish office for a confidential discussion or more information.

(Alternatively see the "giving" pages at [www.dbb.org.au](http://www.dbb.org.au)) **EFTPOS Available in Parish Office**

EFT: Wahroonga Catholic Parish Account BSB: 062-784 Account No: 1389 8001 CBA- 48 Martin Place, Sydney

**Our Parish has Tap n Go Facilities at the entrance to our church. The money donated at these terminals contributes to our Parish Planned Giving—All monies are for the support of our Parish**

*We seek to grow as a Welcoming and Inclusive Community, supporting  
Life's Journey, through God's Grace and Mercy*