

Sunday 12 January—Baptism of the Lord

## 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).

### A Prayer in the Midst of Fire and Drought

Peter Bierer

How long, O Lord?

Every day, I see images and hear stories of the devastating bushfires in Australia. Raging fires, blackened forests, burned-out homes, ash-filled skies, scarred animals, traumatized children and communities.

I am filled with sorrow, my soul is heavy with grief.

How long will the fires last, O Lord? How long will the destruction and death continue? Where are you, God?

**I am sad, O God.** I grieve for the loss of human life, of homes, animals, plants and trees, and the scarring of the earth. I am saddened for the original custodians of the land, the First Peoples of Australia, and the poor and marginalized disproportionately affected by the fires. As Jesus wept for Jerusalem and the coming destruction of the temple, I weep for Australia and the destruction of this sacred land. Turn my sadness into compassion.

**I am fearful, O God.** I am afraid because these fires are out of my control. I feel helpless and small. When will this torment end? How many lives will be affected by the fires? There is no end in sight. Will relief ever come? Turn my fear into hope.

**I am angry, O God.** I look for someone to blame. Whose fault is this? Scientists have warned for decades of the dangers of climate change, yet our leaders sit idly by, making promises with little to show in action. I am even angry with you, God. Can't you stop the fires by some miracle? Are you even listening? I know that pointing fingers will not help, but I am upset. Turn my anger into resolve.

**I am ashamed, O God.** Am I partly to blame for these fires? I hold tightly to my comforts and conveniences which contribute to higher carbon levels in the atmosphere. I am ashamed because I do not know how to help. Turn my shame into healing.

**I am grateful, O God.** I am thankful for the firefighters who work tirelessly to protect your people and all creation; for the volunteers and those who donate money, supplies and their own homes to assist those in need; for the "good news stories" which spark hope. I am grateful for the rain when it comes. Turn my gratitude into action.

How long, O Lord, how long?

I cry to you in my helplessness as I witness the tragedy unfolding in the Great Southland of the Holy Spirit.

*Come, Holy Spirit, Enkindle in us the fire of your love fill the hearts of your people and renew the face of the earth.*

**Instead of bushfires, come with the fire of your love, Holy Spirit.** Fill us with compassion and mercy to stand with our sisters and brothers affected by the fires. Give us strength to join in their suffering and bear witness to their pain. Instead of the driving winds that add fuel to the fires, come as a gentle breath. Bring fresh air to drive away the toxic fumes and ashen skies. Breathe new life into us, inspire us with love to care for one another and the earth.

**Come, Holy Spirit, as a refreshing rain.** Open the heavens, quench the flames, heal the parched land and nourish our souls, renew the face of the earth.

**Come, Holy Spirit, with the peace of a dove.** Calm our anxieties and fear. Lead us from the temptation to blame one another and become divided. May we be bearers of peace.

**Come as a balm, Holy Spirit.** Anoint and soothe the wounds of the victims, seen and unseen. May we be balm to one another.

**Be our Advocate, Holy Spirit.** Listen to our inward groaning and give us words to speak in places of power. Speak through us that we may be prophets of love amid the kingdoms of selfishness and greed; that we may speak hope in times of despair.

Veni, Creator Spiritus! Heal the land. Heal our hearts. Make us new again.

To you, O God, I entrust my sorrow, my fears, my anguish, as well as the people, the flora and fauna, the land of Australia.

Help me to find consolation and be grateful for the many gifts and joys present in the midst of this tragedy.

Reveal to me the path of life. Fill me with love, guide me in hope, and lead me to act with mercy and compassion.

Amen.

## Parish Masses This Week

Monday	13 January	No Mass	Weekday, Ordinary Time Week 1
Tuesday	14 January	9.15am Mass	Weekday, Ordinary Time Week 1
Wednesday	15 January	9.15am Mass	Weekday, Ordinary Time Week 1
Thursday	16 January	9.15am Mass	Weekday, Ordinary Time Week 1
Friday	17 January	9.15am Mass	St Anthony, Abbot
Saturday	18 January	5.00pm Mass	Vigil Mass for the 2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time
Sunday	19 January	9.15am and 5.30pm	2ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

## Please Remember in your Prayers

### RECENTLY DECEASED:

Sylvia Arnett (mother of Max, aged 108, died 6 January), 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).

### ANNIVERSARIES:

Damion (Sri Wijetunga's brother, 50th anniversary, 31st January, Tod Walker (Lillas Roche's brother, 4th anniversary 20 January), Muriel Molnar (4th anniversary, 21 January), Joan Clarke (3rd anniversary, 22 January), Patricia (Pat) Lynch, 3rd anniversary, 23 January), Joseph El-Daher (Denise Kassis' brother, 59th anniversary on 21 January, Cheble El-Daher (father of Denise Kassis - 33rd anniversary on 23 January), Lucy Machado (mother of Tony, 19th anniversary), 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.

### The Feast of the Baptism of the Lord

brings to a conclusion the Season of Christmas.

This week we commence Ordinary Time as we journey towards the Season of Lent  
which commences with Ash Wednesday 26 February 2020

## Parish Notes

Please be sure to read my letter on our Diocesan response to the National Bushfire Crisis. From this weekend at every Mass, at the conclusion to the Prayer of the Faithful, we shall pray "For those Affected by Fire and Drought" available at the entrances to the church. Special Collection to be taken on weekend of 26 January 2020.



**The Parish Office reopens Monday 13th January 2020.**

Welcome back Jackie!

### 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 condolences and sympathy to Max Arnett on the death of his dear mother, Sylvia who passed away on 6 January aged a most extraordinary 108 years.**

Eternal rest grant unto Sylvia O Lord and let perpetual light shine upon her. Our thoughts and love are with you Max and Trish.

### 50s and Over Singles Group

A meeting is to take place in the Sunroom Holy Name Parish Wahroonga on Saturday 25th. January 2020 at 10.00am to plan the year's outings for the 50's And Over Singles Group for 2020. All are most welcome to attend and to put forward any ideas and suggestions that you may have for the excursions.

For further information contact Reg Gibbons at [gibbonsarchitect@bigpond.com](mailto:gibbonsarchitect@bigpond.com)

## Updates on Davin and Sharon

**Allen Ho, Davin's brother has passed on these updates on our friends recovering from the White Island volcano eruption**

### Monday 6 Jan. Day 28.

Four weeks exactly.

Almost everyone who has visited, has walked thru the door not knowing what to expect. And all have been amazed at how well the 3 of them look.

The healing wounds are visible on their faces, their ears, their necks. Hands and legs are still heavily bandaged. But despite all that, as well as the pain that they are still in when the medication wears off, they are smiling, and laughing, and talking, and walking (even though like penguins begging for food). Davin sits up in a chair most of the day now. He has started to walk around, though it is still painful, and he can't walk too far.

For the first time today, I was able to see the extent of the injuries to his arms, hands & legs, which has always been wrapped up in bandages. And the skin still looks so raw and blistered and painful. We can only go on faith and the doctor's word that everything is healing well, because you won't be able to tell by looking. Sharon went into theatre today to undergo a dressings change and some further grafts on her ankle.

She was in some discomfort after the session. But she still had an appetite for dinner. We will find out in the next couple of days whether the doctors will recommend her discharge from hospital to the rehab centre with Leanne.

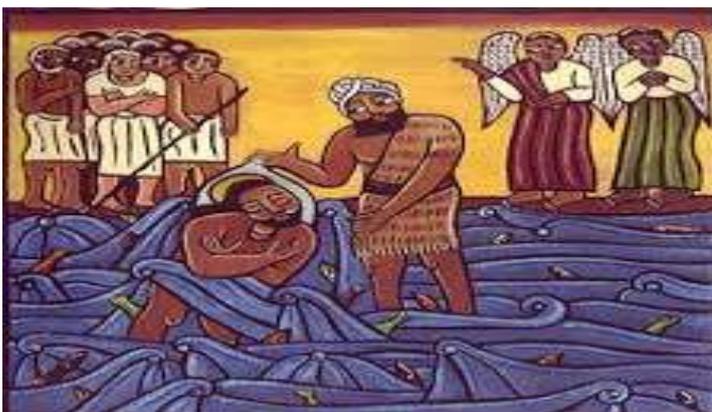
Leanne is coping ok at the rehab centre. She has 30-40 min rehab sessions twice a day, once a day on weekends. Some of the exercises are painful unfortunately, but all are designed to help her regain the full flexibility and functionality of the injured limbs.

### Wednesday 8 Jan. Day 30.

A little scare yesterday. Sharon was transferred back into ICU because her blood pressure dropped significantly. This happened at about 11pm Mon night as she was asleep. The alert triggered an immediate reaction from the Rapid Response team. They woke Sharon up but apart from being sleepy, she didn't feel any different. So they wheeled her back into ICU. Throughout yesterday, her blood pressure eventually stabilised. She was moved back into the burns ward this evening.

Davin's progress continues remarkably well. Not much complications from his dressings change today. Still the fingers causing the most pain. But he is up and about much more now, walking further each day.

**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*