



## 22 March 2026 - FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT

### "I AM THE RESURRECTION AND THE LIFE"

The Gospel of today tells us that Our Lord was moved with compassion in an almost violent way, raging against the seeming finality of death. The raising of Lazarus demonstrated His power to rob death of its supposed supremacy. But, Our Lord did not set Lazarus completely free! You may think that to be raised from the dead was not a bad start, but Lazarus was still shuffling: bound, constrained, constricted by the past. To those gathered around the tomb Jesus issued the command: 'Set him free, unbind him.' – Synod calls – "participation".

It was the collective effort of others which enabled Lazarus to walk as a liberated son of God. You may find yourself commanded by the Lord to help unbind a person who has had a life draining experience. such as those featured weekly by Caritas in the Lenten Project Compassion stories. We get the courage to respond because it is the command of the One who definitively conquered death. (Something feared by all cultures). We could pause for a moment to resolve to help liberate others already helped by the grace of Him whom we believe to be the Resurrection and the Life.

The Third, Fourth and Fifth Sundays of Lent in Year A feature significant passages from the Gospel of John. The first of the three readings was the story of the Samaritan woman at the well, to whom Jesus described himself as Living Water. The second was the healing of the blind man and Jesus declaring himself to be the Light of the World.

In today's passage about the death and raising of Lazarus, Jesus declares, 'I am the resurrection and the life.' Living Water; Light of the World; and the Resurrection and the Life—three important images of Jesus that all emerge from the Gospel of John. Which culture on earth is not in need of these? Each of the events relate to Jesus' response to some physical need: thirst; blindness; and death. However, in each case, Jesus not only responds to the physical need but also reveals a truth about himself that leads people to belief.

As a metaphor, death can stand for many things. The prophet Ezekiel witnessed the death of the nation. The Gospel reports the death of Lazarus. Although Paul refers to the mortal character of our physical bodies, he is more concerned with spiritual life and death. Death attacks each one of us in all three of these ways. We are all mortal and subject to physical death; we are all sinners and must deal with the implications of spiritual death; we are all subjected to the consequences of social sins such as terrorism, violence, group hatred, greed and ecological exploitation. The question before us is whether or not we are going to allow death to reign in our lives and in our communities.

This Parish Day, and Harmony Day give us a meaningful opportunity to come together to celebrate the rich cultural diversity that shapes our nation and our parish communities. It encourages us to embrace inclusiveness, respect and a genuine sense of belonging for all.

*Fr Gaspar Mushi Cssp.*



### Saturday 21st March is the anniversary of the Opening of our Church in 1954.

It is also **Harmony Day**: recognising our diversity, encouraging people to reflect on the importance of community belonging, cultural respect, and unity.

**Our Parish is celebrating this important day at the Saturday 5pm Mass with dinner afterwards.**

**Please bring a plate of food from your family to share with our community after Mass.**

**We shall also have a sausage sizzle bbq.**

**We invite you to wear your cultural attire or orange to show your support.**

**Would your child like to read or help at the Mass? To register your child to take part, please contact Sally Oong at the Parish Office on 9489 3221 or [sally.oong@bbcatholic.org.au](mailto:sally.oong@bbcatholic.org.au) asap.**

### PARISH HAND TREE

We shall also have a Parish 'Hand Tree' made by our parishioners and students at our local schools.

Please feel welcome to add your own handprint to the community tree, BYO or use a provided 'hand'.



## *Parish Masses This Week*

Monday	23 March	No Mass				Monday of the 5th week of Lent
Tuesday	24 March	Mass	9.15am			Tuesday of the 5th week of Lent
Wednesday	25 March	Mass	9.15am			The ANNUNCIATION of the LORD
Thursday	26 March	Mass	9.15am			Thursday of the 5th week of Lent
Friday	27 March	Mass	9.15am			Friday of the 5th week of Lent
Saturday	28 March	Mass	5.00pm			Saturday of the 5th week of Lent
Sunday	29 March	Mass	8.00am	9.30am	5.30pm	PALM SUNDAY of the PASSION of the LORD

## *Please Remember in your Prayers*

**RECENTLY DECEASED:** Dr Jock Shumack (uncle of Rosalie Belsey), Don Reade (husband of Jeanette, father of Mark and Michael, died 22 February aged 92), Mary Toomey (mother of James, died in the UK on 6 February), Geoffrey Fonseca (brother of Mark, died in Canada on 7 Feb), Daisy Chiu (longtime parishioner, sister of Lily Wong, mother to Celine, Bernard and Felix, died 6 January), John Bourke (uncle of Rosalie Belsey, brother of Pat Baxter, died 8 January), Nancy den Hertog (died 14 December), Judith (Judy) Allan (died 6 December, mother of Philippa, Vincent and Sonia).

**ANNIVERSARIES:** Edward James Lynch (Jennifer Gregory's Dad, 25th anniversary on 23 March), Rose Maiolo (2nd anniversary 27 March, (wife of Noel, mother of Christine, Melissa and Sarah, sister in law of Trish and Tony Maiolo), Donald Dunning (brother of Leila McCreton, 3rd anniversary, 27 March), Athol Higgins (husband of Norma, 7th anniversary 30 March), Roger Thrum (15th anniversary, 13 March), Robyn Miller (sister-in-law of Jackie Thornton, 1st anniversary 11 March), Terry Gallagher (husband of Pam - 17 year anniversary on 14th March), Noreen McGarry (wife of Brian, 22nd anniversary on 18 March), Marceli Pochyly (45th anniversary on 19 March, father of Cecylia Ramsden), Kevin Brown (brother-in-law of Halina and David Brett in England, 3rd anniversary 20 March), Peter Hunt (husband of Sue, longtime parishioner, 1st anniversary 7 March), Peter Brink (Dot's husband, 2nd anniversary 25 February), Ottaviano Praturlon (husband of Elsa, 30th anniversary on 6 March), Eleonora Poletto (mother of Giordana Praturlon and Carla Poletto, 9th anniversary 26 February), Edward Mendez (father of Allison Rodrigues, 10th anniversary, 2 March), Buenaventura Lizardo (father of Francis, anniversary 4 March), Jonas Buzinskas (father of Peter, anniversary on 9 March), Helen Gait (wife of Tom, 5th anniversary, 9 March).

**FOR THE SICK:** Julie Madden, Peter and Bernadette Vince (brother and sister-in-law of Cecilia Kean), Joseph Akkary (great-great-nephew of Denise and John Kassis), Pam Gallagher, Stevan Dind (friend of Dominic McGrath and Spiros Potiris), Megan Khannah, José Joaquim De Sousa (son of Ines), Shannon Van Der Bergh (nephew of Amalie G), George Ozelins, Peter and Jan Van de Velde (Jacqui's parents), Jannette Mary Cameron (sister of Tom Gait), Jenny O'Brien, Lawson Wynter (grandson of Marilyn Orrock), Jenny Southam, Alison Robinson (daughter of Vince and Bev), Ray Kassis (brother of John Kassis), Yvonne Malouf (mother of Joanne Klostermann), Noeline Mannix, Tina Northcott, Mark Vinson Vallarta, Margaret Du Moulin (Edwina Potiris' mum, friend of Dominic McGrath), Conor and Leila McCreton, Margaret and Pat MacMillan, Jonathan Tighe (nephew of Caroline Montouro), Judy Ford (sister in law of Irene King), Geoff Deacon (brother-in-law of Irene King), Margaret Anderson (sister-in-law of Frank and Jo Waldron), Norma Higgins, Davin and Sharon Ho, Leanne (Sharon's sister).

### Spiritual Care Series

Catholic Healthcare invites parishioners to the *Spiritual Care Series* a world leading program in the spiritual care of older person. This **free** eight week course equips and empowers those interested in volunteering in aged-care settings, carers and those accompanying older people.

Topics include exploring understanding ageing journey, dementia, spirituality in later life, good communication, and the power of faith and hope.

**An information evening will be held on Thursday 9 April, 7.00–8.00pm, with the course running from 16 April to 4 June.** Contact Adrian at 0421 407 270 or [spccvolunteers@chcs.com.au](mailto:spccvolunteers@chcs.com.au) for further information or to register.

**Adrian from Catholic Healthcare will speak about the course this weekend at the Saturday Vigil and Sunday morning Masses. Places are limited and registration is essential.**

## *What do the Readings say to us this Sunday* **FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT**

**First Reading:** Ezek 37:12--13: I shall put my spirit in you, and you will live.

**Second Reading:** Rom 8:8-11: If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you, then he will give life to your own mortal bodies. Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ! I am the resurrection and the life, says the Lord; whoever believes in me will not die for ever. Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

**Gospel:** Jn 11:1-45: I am the resurrection and the life.

### **BE PART OF OUR WONDERFUL PARISH COMMUNITY**

#### **We welcome everyone**

to come along and join in our Family Masses which involve our Parish students and enjoy our special sausage sizzle and dessert afterwards.

Our Family Masses are on the following **Saturdays at 5pm:**

- 21 March (Foundation Day - All years)
- 24 May **Sunday** (Parish Pentecost Celebration - All years)
- 20 June (Year 4)
- 1 August (Year 2)
- 19 September (Years 5 & 1)
- 17 October (Years 6 & K)



***If your child would like to sing in the Family Mass Choir, play in the band, or take part in the Mass please contact the Parish Office.***

**SAVE THE DATES IN YOUR CALENDAR!**

## *Welcome to Holy Name Deacon Richard Houwing*



As you may recall from his recent letter, Bishop Anthony has asked Deacon Richard to assist our Parish in several areas, including governance and mentoring our priests as they settle into our community. We thought it might be beneficial to share a little of his background.

He spent his young life in the Gulf of Carpentaria region. Deacon Richard holds a degree in Economics and an MBA from the University of Queensland. Around 40 years ago he was posted to Sydney by Arnotts Biscuits and went on to work with a number of corporate organisations in IT, Marketing, and Contract Management, before later running several of his own businesses.

More recently, Deacon Richard served as the Business Manager at Epping–Carlingford Parish, where he represented the Parish during its extensive site redevelopment. He began his formation for the Diaconate in 1995 and has since completed a Master of Theology. He was ordained in June 2023 and has assisted in ministry at Chatswood and The Lakes Parishes.

Richard is married with two children and two young grandchildren. He is well known for his deep love of Christ and for the thoughtful and reflective way he shares his faith. Deacon Richard brings a strong pastoral heart to his ministry, with a genuine care for people and a commitment to supporting and strengthening the life of the parish community.

Please make him welcome and introduce yourself to Deacon Richard when you see him.



## Our Schools—Upcoming Open Days



### SIENA CATHOLIC COLLEGE

# OPEN DAYS



SIENA  
CATHOLIC COLLEGE

Senior Campus Pymble

**WEDNESDAY 18 MARCH**

• 4:00PM–7:00PM

**TUESDAY 24 MARCH**

• 9:00AM–10:30AM

**ENROLLING FOR  
Year 7 2027 & Year 7 2028**

CSBB primary school students benefit from a direct pathway and priority enrolment into Year 7 at Sienna College.

**REGISTER TODAY TO ATTEND**

[NorthShoreOpenDays.com.au](http://NorthShoreOpenDays.com.au)

#### Discover Sienna

A new Kindergarten to Year 12 co-educational, multi-campus Catholic college in Sydney.

**DON'T MISS OUT – REGISTER TODAY  
TO JOIN OUR MARCH OPEN DAYS**



Loreto  
Normanhurst

# Open Day

Saturday, 21 March 2026

SCAN THE QR CODE  
TO REGISTER



Campus Tours | Principal Presentations | Learning and Extra-Curricular Showcase  
Meet our Staff and Students | Food Stalls | Farm Animals

### 2026 Open Days – Register Now!

With 43 schools across the Central Coast, Sydney's Northern Beaches, and the North Shore, Catholic Schools Broken Bay offers a seamless K-12 educational journey in a dynamic and enriching learning environment for students.

We invite parents and carers to experience our vibrant learning communities by attending our 2025 Open Days. Discover the schools in your area and explore their unique offerings in faith, learning and wellbeing.

To find upcoming Open Days near you, select your region and register your interest below.

**Central Coast Schools Open Days** – register [here](#)

**Northern Beaches Schools Open Days** – register [here](#)

**North Shore Schools Open Days** – register [here](#)



## OPEN DAY SAT 28 MAR 10–1PM TUE 25 AUG 9–11AM

Discover a Catholic education for girls in Years 7–12



**RANKED 6TH IN NSW** | Top Performing Affordable Schools\* by The Daily Telegraph, Year 7 fees starting from just \$8,080\*\*



**QUALITY EDUCATION** | Established for more than 135 years, we set the standard for quality education with outstanding academic results – **Ranked 101 in SMH HSC Ranking 2025**



**OVERALL WELBEING** | Safe, supportive environment with structured Pastoral Care and Wellbeing programs



**SUBJECT CHOICE** | A broad selection of electives from Year 7 through to HSC supported by a dynamic, responsive, and diverse approach to learning



**CO-CURRICULAR** | Over 30 programs, including Creative Arts, Debating & Public Speaking, special interest clubs, Sport programs extended to weekend sport with specialised coaches and academies



**TRANSPORT** | Centrally located in Chatswood, minutes from Chatswood Interchange (Bus, Train & Metro)



**CATHOLIC COMMUNITY** | As part of Catholic Schools Broken Bay (CSBB) families benefit from sibling discounts

[mercychatswood.nsw.edu.au](http://mercychatswood.nsw.edu.au)



**REGISTER  
NOW**

## Parish News and Events



### Holy Hour

This Friday - 6:30pm

**NOTE: Fridays during Lent - STATIONS OF THE CROSS at 6:30pm**

### CAYA Come As You Are

#### Discussion & Reflection Group

Thursdays after morning Mass. We meet in the Parish Sunroom. **Everyone is welcome.**

### Senior Ladies Group

Meets on the first Thursday of the month at 2:00pm in the Parish Sunroom  
For further details: Jo Waldron 0412 018 819



### Men's Rosary & Bible Study

The men of HNW meet every fortnight on Tuesday night to pray the rosary and read the Gospel. All men welcome.

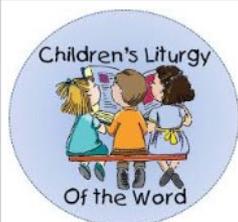
#### Program - next meeting 24 March

7:00pm Silent prayer in the church

7:10pm Rosary

7:45pm Gospel reflection & discussion

**Contact :** Tomasz Grzech 0413 802 069 or  
Alexander Fletcher O.P 0452 524 119  
for more information.



**CHILDREN'S LITURGY** is held in the Parish Sunroom every Sunday at 9:30am Mass during school terms, with pre-school to school age children invited to attend. Parents welcome.

If you are interested in helping with Children's Liturgy, please feel welcome to join us. No obligation to 'sign up'. Contact Sally Oong at the Parish office for more details - 9489 3221.

## An Invitation

### PASSIONTIDE CAROLS: 28 March - A Service of Music and Readings

Join us for a stirring evening of Passiontide Carols on Saturday, 28 March, immediately following the 5pm Vigil Mass at Our Lady of the Rosary Cathedral. This service of music and readings offers a unique opportunity for reflection as we journey from the Lenten season into the profound mysteries of Holy Week.

Presented by organist and hymnodist Christian Catsanos, the program will feature a selection of hymns that trace the path of the Passion, from Christ's triumphant entry into Jerusalem to the Cross at Calvary. All are invited to experience this service of prayerful meditation and musical beauty as we prepare our hearts for the most sacred time of the Liturgical year.

Refreshments will be available following the service.

### Engaged Encounter Weekends 2026

How prepared are you for marriage? Engaged Encounter provides you with deeper insights into each other and into married life. We give you a chance to spend time together to strengthen and enrich your relationship.

For further information visit our web site: [www.engagedencounter.org.au](http://www.engagedencounter.org.au)

Choose any of the coming Weekends: **May 23-24, Aug 8-9**



POPE LEO XIV'S PRAYER  
INTENTION FOR MARCH

To pray for  
disarmament and  
peace

## Sacramental Program - Reconciliation 2026



Congratulations to the 47 children who received the Sacrament of Reconciliation on the evening of Wednesday, 18 March.

We thank their families for their support throughout the program.



Special thanks as always to Prouille Primary School for the use of their classrooms, our Group Leaders and Sacramental Co-Ordinator, Mrs Sally Oong and to Fr Gaspar and Fr Jules-Davy for their support and guidance throughout the program.



# Project Compassion/Caritas - Helping Others in Lent

**Fifth Sunday of Lent 21–22 March 2026**

## AHMAD from GAZA

When war intensified in Gaza in late 2023, Ahmad, a Caritas Jerusalem employee in their Media and Communications team, was forced to flee his home in northern Gaza. Like thousands of families, his family carried almost nothing as they sought safety in Khan Younis. Two months later, disaster struck again when the house where they were sheltering was bombed at night. Ahmad was buried under rubble, his eardrum ruptured. His brother survived with devastating injuries, including the loss of a leg.

For two months Ahmad stayed with his brother in an overwhelmed hospital with few doctors and scarce supplies. His family was displaced several more times, sometimes living in tents, sometimes in borrowed homes, often leaving behind the few belongings they had managed to gather.

Despite personal suffering, Ahmad continued his role with Caritas Jerusalem, helping to support families in need. "Thank God we work at Caritas, allowing us to serve people in the most challenging conditions despite the lack of medicine," he explains. "I hope this ordeal ends so we can go back to rebuild Gaza, our children's future, our country, and our organisation."



Rows of tents provide temporary shelter for families in Gaza who have been forced to flee their homes. Photo: Caritas Jerusalem.



Caritas Jerusalem staff member stocking up medical supplies in a clinic. Photo: Caritas Jerusalem.

Ahmad's story is a reminder that Caritas' mission of accompaniment is lived not only through its programs, but through the courage and resilience of its frontline staff.

**Together, we can Unite Against Poverty this Lent by donating to Project Compassion**, helping people in Gaza and other vulnerable regions to rebuild their lives with dignity and hope.

Or online at: [www.projectcompassion.org.au/donate](http://www.projectcompassion.org.au/donate)

Or by calling: 1800 024 413



**REHEARSAL THIS SATURDAY  
9:00AM TO 10:30AM**

## POP UP NEWS

Preparations for Easter Sunday will start in mid-March. All welcome to join.

The **Pop Up Choir** first formed 2011. It has provided uplifting choral music for **Christmas Day** and **Easter Sunday** in a relaxed and inclusive way for 14 years.

From Easter 2026, the choir will take on a new name and add to its schedule of masses.

The choir has traditionally come together for important feasts, so we are changing our name to the

### Holy Name Festival Choir

We hope this change will bring together singers from all existing Holy Name singing ensembles, as well as welcoming new singers for these special celebratory liturgies.

Please join us in the new **Festival Choir** for **Easter Sunday 2026** which falls on **5 April**.

#### Rehearsals

Saturdays **14, 21, 28 March and 4 April 2026** from **9am-10.30am** in the church or sunroom. Singers of all abilities welcome. All training is provided. Please email [chrissiegoldrick@gmail.com](mailto:chrissiegoldrick@gmail.com) or let the parish office know you would like to take part, or sign the sheet at the back of church.



**Important Dates:** Looking ahead to the next season of the Church

**Stations of the Cross  
6:30pm Fridays during Lent  
(commencing 20 February)**

<b>Palm Sunday</b>	<b>29 March</b>
<b>Holy Thursday</b>	<b>2 April</b>
<b>Good Friday</b>	<b>3 April</b>
<b>Easter Sunday</b>	<b>5 April</b>



Holy Week  
Journey Together

**SIGN UP sheets for Holy Week are in the Church.**

**Please put your name down to help if you can.**

**Thank you.**

## Parish Contact Information and Mass Times

Parish Priest:	Fr Gaspar Mushi Cssp	gaspar.mushi@bbcatholic.org.au
Assistant Priest:	Fr Jules-Davy Malonga Cssp	jules-davy.malonga@bbcatholic.org.au
Deacon Richard Houwing:	(02) 8379 1753	richard.houwing@bbcatholic.org.au
Parish Secretary:	Mrs Jackie Thornton	jackie.thornton@bbcatholic.org.au
Parish Office:	Email	holyname@bbcatholic.org.au
Sacramental Coordinator:	Mrs Sally Oong	sally.oong@bbcatholic.org.au
Office Hours:		Weekdays* 9:00am to 5:00pm (*CLOSED Tuesday)
Phone:		(02) 9489 3221
Postal Address:		P O Box 385 Wahroonga NSW 2076
Prouille Primary School:		5 Water Street Wahroonga NSW 2076
School Principal:		Ms Genevieve Smith
Phone:	(02) 7256 2146	School Website: <a href="http://www.prouilledbb.catholic.edu.au">www.prouilledbb.catholic.edu.au</a>
CCD Coordinator:		Mrs Hayley Edmunds
Eucharist Ministry to the Sick Coordinators:		Mrs Judy Dalton (SAN - Tues) Mr Barry Clibborn (SAN - Fri) Mr Paul Sutherland (Housebound)
Weekend Ministries Co-ordinator:		<b>Volunteer needed please.</b>
St Vincent de Paul (Wahroonga Conference):		Mr Anthony Weaver (President) 0423 842 823 Mr Ken Laing (Treasurer)

**Mass on Tuesday to Friday:** 9.15am (8:45am Morning Prayer)  
Rosary after Mass Tuesday—Friday and after 1st Saturday Mass  
Special Intercessions/intentions remembered at Friday Mass.

**Holy Hour: Friday evenings** 6:30pm (except during Lent—  
when we have Stations of the Cross at 6:30pm).

### **Weekend Masses:**

**FIRST Saturday of the month** Mass at 9:15am

Saturday 5.00pm

Sunday 8.00am, 9.30am and 5.30pm

**Mass is also celebrated: :**

Our Lady of the Rosary Cathedral, Waitara - Monday 7.00am

**McQuoin Park, Waitara: Fr Jules-Davy celebrates Mass on  
Sundays at 11:00am**

**Baptism: Preparation** - by appointment with Parish Priest  
Bookings essential through the Parish Office.

### **Marriage:**

By appointment, at least six months in advance.

### **Sick Calls:**

Any time day or night. Please call 0484 581 647 out of  
office hours. Fr Jules-Davy visits Hornsby Hospital on a  
regular basis and the SAH (The SAN) by arrangement.

**Confessions:** Saturday 11.30am or by appointment.

The list of times in surrounding parishes is on our parish  
website. We recommend you call the parish in advance to  
confirm times.

**Parish Pastoral and Missionary Council:** Rosalie Belsey (Chair), Anne-Louise Deakin (Co-Chair), Sajanee Senn (Secretary),  
Chrissie Goldrick, Alex Fletcher, Bernadette Holland-Lopez, Patrick Kirkwood, Samantha Vieira, Sally Oong, with Genevieve  
Smith (Prouille), Rebecca Kirwan (St Edmunds) and Courtenay Peters (St Lucy's).

**Parish Finance Committee:** Tony Monardo, Robyn Elizondo, Tim Quilty, Paul O'Brien.

**The Parish Bank Account Number:** BSB: 062-784 ACC: 100010626 (Wahroonga Parish EFT Account)

**SO WHAT DOES THIS MEAN?** If you would like to deposit directly to the parish account (on a regular or ad  
hoc basis), please use the above account number. We invite you to help our Parish by joining a Planned Giving  
scheme. Please contact the Parish Office for the way you can participate in this. Your gift of any size will help our  
parish continue our good works & outreach. Alternatively see the "Make A Payment" tab on  
[www.holynamewahroonga.com.au](http://www.holynamewahroonga.com.au)

**Thank you for your financial contribution to the support of our Parish Community and its priests.  
It is greatly appreciated.**

The **1st Collection** taken up at Mass goes to the Clergy Remuneration Fund for the financial support of the  
priests of the Diocese of Broken Bay.

The **2nd Collection** taken up at Mass is for the running, maintenance and upkeep of the Parish.

### **IN CASE OF A MEDICAL EMERGENCY:**

**Our Church is equipped with a defibrillator in the event of a cardiac arrest.**

**It is located on the right hand side as you enter the Church next to the notice board behind the last pew.**

**It is designed to be used by everyone. Please familiarise yourself with the use of this device at [AED Plus Step-by-Step Demo - YouTube](#) in case of an emergency.**