



OUR LADY STAR OF THE SEA , TERRIGAL

*“ May we Love one Another,
that all experience a Sense of Belonging ”*

28th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME Year B 10 October 2021

The Month of the Holy Rosary



First Reading: Wisdom 7:7-11

A reading from the book of Wisdom

I prayed, and understanding was given me;
I entreated, and the spirit of Wisdom came to me.
I esteemed her more than sceptres and thrones;
compared with her, I held riches as nothing.
I reckoned no priceless stone to be her peer, for compared with her, all gold is a pinch of sand,
and beside her silver ranks as mud. I loved her more than health or beauty,
preferred her to the light, since her radiance never sleeps.
In her company all good things came to me, at her hands riches not to be numbered.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 89: R Fill us with your love, O Lord,

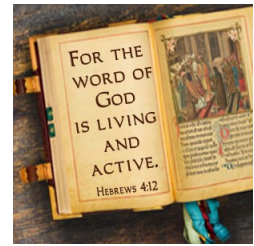
Second Reading: Hebrews 4:12-13

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews

The word of God discerns the thoughts and intentions of the heart.

The word of God is something alive and active: it cuts like any double-edged sword but more finely: it can slip through the place where the soul is divided from the spirit, or joints from the marrow; it can judge the secret emotions and thoughts. No created thing can hide from him; everything is uncovered and open to the eyes of the one to whom we must give account of ourselves.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**



Gospel: Mark 10:17-27

Jesus was setting out on a journey when a man ran up, knelt before him and put this question to him, 'Good master, what must I do to inherit eternal life?' Jesus said to him, 'Why do you call me good? No one is good but God alone. You know the commandments: You must not kill; You must not commit adultery; You must not steal; You must not bring false witness; You must not defraud; Honour your father and mother.' And he said to him, 'Master, I have kept all these from my earliest days.' Jesus looked steadily at him and loved him, and he said, 'There is one thing you lack. Go and sell everything you own and give the money to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; then come, follow me.' But his face fell at these words and he went away sad, for he was a man of great wealth.

Jesus looked round and said to his disciples, 'How hard it is for those who have riches to enter the kingdom of God!' The disciples were astounded by these words, but Jesus insisted, 'My children,' he said to them, 'how hard it is to enter the kingdom of God! It is easier for a camel to pass through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter the kingdom of God.' They were more astonished than ever. 'In that case' they said to one another 'who can be saved?' Jesus gazed at them. 'For men' he said 'it is impossible, but not for God: because everything is possible for God.'

The Word of the Lord **Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ**



To pray together or write your own prayers

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

LEADER: Jesus calls us to put God's loving plan for the world first in our lives. Heeding his word, let us pray for all in need.

READER

We pray for all people suffering from famine, malnutrition and food insecurity, that World Food Day (16 October) will give them hope of lasting relief. Lord, hear us.

All: Lord hear our prayer.

We pray for a deeper spirit of solidarity within Australia and with countries under-resourced for the pandemic, that this common threat will unite and not divide us. Lord, hear us.

All: Lord hear our prayer.

We pray for school students and all young people concerned for the future of the planet, that their pleas for effective climate action will be heard and met. Lord, hear us.

All: Lord hear our prayer

We pray for mining and farming communities faced with disruption by emission reduction policies, that they will have an active role in determining just outcomes for all. Lord, hear us.

All: Lord hear our prayer.

We pray for the Catholic community in Australia, that the deliberations of the Plenary Council will bear a rich harvest of renewal and revitalisation. Lord, hear us.

All: Lord hear our prayer.

We pray for all carers, especially those in the aged and disability sector, that they will be loving, faithful and well supported in their service. Lord, hear us.

All: Lord hear our prayer.

We pray for the recently deceased and for those whose anniversary of death occurs around this time, that they will enjoy to the full the blessings of eternal life. Lord, hear us.

All: Lord hear our prayer

LEADER: Mighty God, you fill the hungry with good things and send the rich away empty. Help us live with Mary's faith in your goodness. We ask this through Christ our Lord. **All: Amen.**

Ordination invitation Ordinations

The Diocese of Broken Bay announces the upcoming Ordination to the Priesthood of **Deacon Roger Delmonte, Deacon Aldrin Valdehueza and Deacon Samuel French.**

The candidates will be ordained by Most Reverend Anthony Randazzo, Bishop of Broken Bay, on **Monday, October 18, 2021 at 11:30 am**, at Our Lady of the Rosary Cathedral Waitara.

Due to restrictions resulting from the current COVID-19 pandemic, the Ordination Mass will be live-streamed. All are invited to participate in the Mass via live-stream on our diocesan website: www.bbcatholic.org.au/ordination

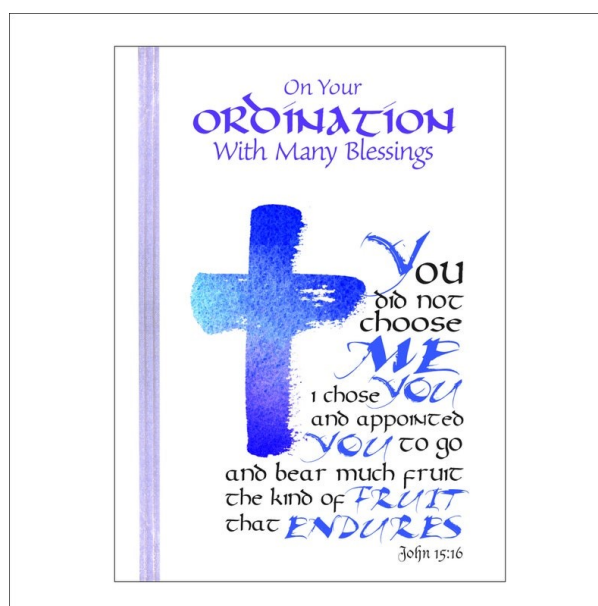
Please keep Deacons Roger, Aldrin, and Sam in your prayers, as they enter into a six-day retreat on 11 October, in preparation for their Ordination on the Feast of Saint Luke the Evangelist!

Post ordination, you are invited to participate in their Masses of Thanksgiving via live-stream at www.bbcatholic.org.au/ordination on the following dates:

Rev Fr Roger Delmonte 11:00 am, Tuesday 19 October 2021 from OLOR Cathedral, Waitara

Rev Fr Aldrin Valdehueza 7:00 pm, Tuesday 19 October 2021 from Our Lady of Dolours, Chatswood

Rev Fr Samuel French 6:00 pm, Friday 22 October 2021 from St John the Baptist Church, Woy Woy



Easing of COVID restrictions

As mentioned last week, Bishop Anthony has sent a letter applying the NSW Government roadmap out of COVID to the Diocese. A summary of how it affects us is:

From Monday 11 October the church will be open for private prayer from 9am to 5pm and Reconciliation will available, by appointment. A change with the new Premier is that funerals and weddings can have up to 100 people. (The limit is 10 people if an unvaccinated person is attending.) Schools will also begin returning on the 11th and all classes will be in attendance by 18th October.

The Monday after 80% vaccination is achieved, which will **possibly be 25th October**, Mass, Reconciliation and Baptisms will resume as usual and devotions such as Rosary, Divine Mercy Chaplet and the St Michael Prayer Group may also resume.

COVID-safe practices will be required in the church and there will be limitations of what we can do in the celebration of Mass.

From 1 December there will be even less restrictions and we will be settling into the new normal with COVID-19 in the community.

We are still waiting for directions from the Diocese concerning the use of the **Parish Office and other facilities**.

Delta Variant

Last year when we came out of lock-down we were dealing with the original strain of COVID. Now we are dealing with the more contagious delta variant and not everyone returning to church is vaccinated, so caution is required by all of us. Most of the requirements are familiar to us.

When we arrive at the church we will need to register our attendance by using the QR code or manually. This is to ensure that if one person is infected, that the rest of us will be advised as soon as possible.

We need to sanitise our hands before entering the building and to wear a face mask through-out the Mass. Initially 217 and then 434 people will be permitted in the church. Where possible, we are to remain 1.5m from those belonging to other households. All this is to limit the possibility of spreading the virus.

The social distancing needs our special attention because sometimes we forget. Some hints to help with this. If you are the first to sit in a pew, take a position in the middle of the pew so later people arriving do not need to squeeze past you. Spread out in the communion line and do not come too close (less than 1.5 m) to the person in front of you.

Some people are reluctant to return to Mass because they fear contracting the virus. As an act of love and a sign of welcome, let's make our church as safe as possible for everyone. Please stay safe yourself and let's keep each other safe.

Fr Vince

Fair by the Sea

This weekend we had hoped to be celebrating the annual parish-school Fair. Sadly, it needed to be cancelled for the second year in a row due to the pandemic. When we get back to school and Mass and before the end of the year we hope to have some fundraising activities. More details to come.



Our wall of sacred spaces from your homes keeps growing.
Soon we will be back praying together in the church.
We will do everything possible for your safety and well being.

Happy moments,
praise God.
Difficult moments,
seek God.
Quiet moments,
worship God.
Painful moments,
trust God.
Every moments,
Thank God.
Amen.

***Vox Populi* - The Voice of the People**

This week's *Vox Populi* comes from Ivica Covic. Ivica is the youth and young adults leader (and regular parishioner) of Manly Freshwater Parish. He attended his local Catholic primary and high schools, and has completed a Bachelor's Degree in Medical Science. He is currently working in a personal injury law firm and is a participant in our Diocese's youth and young adult leaders *Ad Astra* project.

“Pray, hope and don't worry” by Ivica Covic

On 23 September, we celebrated the feast day of one of the most loved saints of modern time – Saint Pius of Pietrelcina, commonly known as Padre Pio. Click [here](#) to read the full message.

Safeguarding

If you missed Fr David Ranson's presentation on *Ministering to a Church in Trauma* – the video of the presentation is now available. Click here to view: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=igdhhZOrcKE>



Pope's October Prayer Intention: Missionary Disciples

We pray that every baptised person may be engaged in evangelisation, available to the mission, by being witnesses of a life that has the flavour of the Gospel.

[Watch the Pope's video here](#)

NEVER LET A BAD
SITUATION BRING OUT
THE WORST IN YOU.
CHOOSE TO STAY
POSITIVE AND BE THE
STRONG PERSON THAT
GOD CREATED YOU TO BE!

While churches are still closed Live streaming and TV Masses are available.

Please [click here](#) for all the details.

Some changes in our church and hall

From 11 October we can visit the church. Here are some things to note that have changed since we began the lockdown on 26 June.

The **carpet has been steam cleaned**. Hopefully you will notice its freshness and that there are no lines on the carpet from the adhesive tape marking the 1.5 metres required for social distancing. Some of the holes in vinyl covering of the pews have been repaired.

To the left and right of the main entrance you will see two **Tap 'n' Go machines**. These are set at \$5 and \$10. Place your credit or debit card near the screen and you will hear a beep which means you have just donated to the second collection. Thank-you! These are increasingly necessary to provide a means of cashless (and so safe) donations to the parish. It is also a way for visitors to our church to contribute.

Two plaques have been added to the base of the **Statue of St Michael**, recognizing the service of the Michaelites at in our parish from 2001 to 2021 and naming the priests who have been appointed to Our Lady Star of the Sea during these years.

A **TV screen has been installed** in the Mercy Chapel. Increasingly this has become a place where families with young children go to attend Mass so the children do not disturb other parishioners. The screen allows the parents to participate as fully as possible in the celebration of the Mass. Thanks to the parent who donated the screen. (Please note that it is the parents who are opting to go to the Mercy Chapel. Children of any age are always welcome anywhere in the church at all our Masses.)

The servers will notice that all the **albs have been washed and ironed**. This was necessary because they had become quite smelly! Thanks to the parishioner who did this for us. Your alb may not be in exactly the same place, but it will be near where you left it.

The **hall has been cleaned**. The remains of streamers and balloons have been removed from ceiling and the tiles have all been put in place. The ceiling in the boys' toilets have also been cleaned of toilet paper. Lights and speakers over the stage have been dusted. The black curtains have been removed and the windows have been cleaned. The masking tape has been removed from the floor and the floors have been mopped. Trestle tables have been collapsed and chairs stacked together to give more space. All little things, but together they make a big difference!



Our new screen in the Divine Mercy Chapel.



Tap and Go machines



Our clean church is waiting for you.



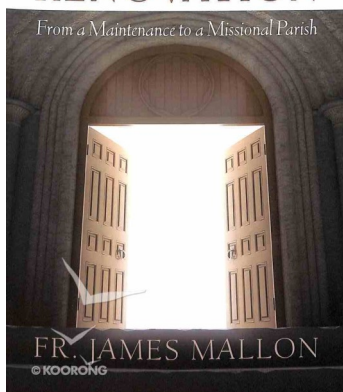
Plaques on the St Michael Statue



Divine Renovation Australasia Conference:

DIVINE RENOVATION

From a Maintenance to a Missional Parish



'Called to Discipleship'

Connect with others who are passionate about parish renewal, and be encouraged, supported and equipped. The conference will feature live keynotes from Fr James Mallon and Dr Ralph Martin. Registration is free.

Date: **20 November 2021** Time: 9:00am - 12:30pm [Register here](#)

Unlocking Parishes During the Unknown

Kevin Bailey, director of Divine Renovation Australasia, will be joined by the Alpha Australia in a Catholic Context team to share stories, resources and tips and tricks to contribute to your parish in a time where the unexpected is expected.

Date: **14 October 2021** Time: 7:00pm - 8:00pm [Register here](#)

Synodality & Co-Responsibility Conversation

Catholic Religious Australia (CRA) will hold a second online 'conversation,' *Synodality and Co-Responsibility*, as part of its online series to explore The Light from the Southern Cross Report. It will provide an opportunity for reflection and engagement with this landmark document.

Speakers will include:

- Rev Associate Professor Orm Rush, Australian Catholic University
- Most Rev Shane Mackinlay, Bishop of Sandhurst
- Mrs Teresa Brierley, Director Pastoral Ministries, Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle.

Date: **Monday 1 November 2021** Time: 10:00am - 3:00pm This is a free event.

[Click here for further information and registration](#)

Prayer App for each day !

Download the free BREAD4TODAY app from the App Store or Google Play, and take a moment to reflect each day.

"One prayer said from the heart is worth a thousand times the many prayers some say amidst great distractions."

Oceania Pastoral Ministry Webinar: *Walking Together: Caring for All in Times of Change*

As we transition to a world living with COVID, how do we pastorally prepare for these permanent changes? How do we care for the spiritual and emotional needs of our own self, and for the people in our communities - members and leaders - in a prayerful and practical way?

Date: **Tuesday 19 October 2021** Time: 11:00am - 12:30pm [Register here](#)

SYNOD 2021-2023



The first phase in each Diocese in the world has begun. Because of our Plenary, we have not heard much about it yet. But if you are interested to find out more, some relevant websites are below.

The [official synod website](#)

[Introduction](#) to the Synod process; includes 2-minute video and infographic (Vatican News website)

Official [Preparatory Document](#) (for first phase of consultation)

Synod [Prayer](#) of invocation to the Holy Spirit (in various languages)

[Tools for reflection](#)

[Newsfeed](#) of the Synod website – brief items, videos, interviews capturing key themes

October is **World Mission Month**

For we CANNOT KEEP FROM SPEAKING about what we have SEEN & HEARD
ACTS 4:20

In two weeks, Catholic Mission will share with us the powerful story of Churai*, a mother who found her way to the Mother and Babies Home, run by the Good Shepherd Sisters in Bangkok, Thailand, during a desperate time in her life.

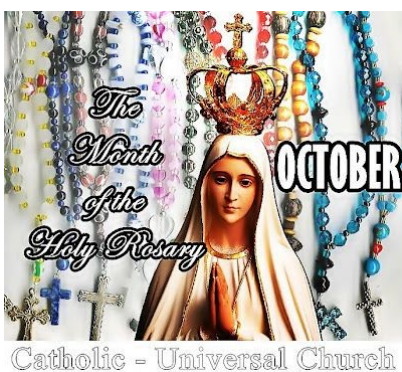
The Good Shepherd Sisters' mission is to promote the dignity and human rights of all, especially women and children; but they can only do that with support from people like you.

Please come with an open and generous heart.

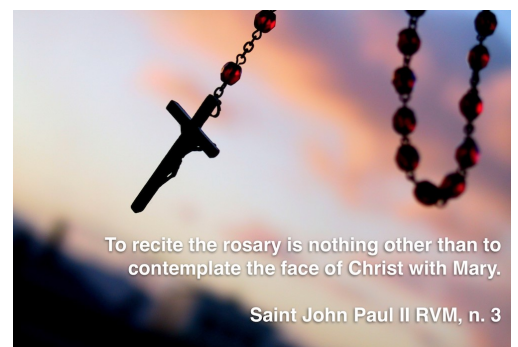
*Name and images altered to protect identity



Freecall: 1800 257 296
catholicmission.org.au/thailand



Catholic - Universal Church



Plenary Council Report

The Plenary Council commenced last Sunday. It is being conducted on zoom. The first session, which runs for 8 days, opened with Mass at St Mary's Cathedral, Perth presided over by the Archbishop of Perth, Timothy Costello; he is the President of the Plenary Council, appointed by the Holy Father, Pope Francis.

At this stage there are no reports of actual decisions. The Council is undertaking listening and discernment, hearing the views of many of the 282 participants. Lay participants are already speaking strongly on the need to address the role of women in the church, the problem of clericalism and the need to be inclusive of indigenous and LGBTI people.

This Plenary Council, the fifth in the church's history in Australia, once opened, covered a broad range of thoughts and topics in its first meetings from baptism being the fundamental basis for conversion to the need for the Church to tend to its past and current failures.

Members are divided into 10 groups and requested to reflect on the six themes: conversion, prayer, formation, structures, governance and institutions.

One group spoke of the differences between rural and metropolitan parishes and another pointed out that the council agenda needs to address the issue of ecumenical dialogue and cooperation. Another sought greater involvement for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders.

A lay delegate Selina Hasham, said that being a church on a "mission of contrition" might be shameful and humbling, but it can also be a "source of new life."

Another lay delegate said that within her group there was a sense of coming to the end of a particular way of being church in the world – a change of era requiring a "new paradigm" of church. The old church has gone. A new church must rise up to take its place. "We need new wineskins", she said.

Another group pointed out the experience of married deacons and priests in the Eastern Rites of the Catholic Church, many of whom are in Australia, and said this had much to offer in terms of clerical formation, particularly the role that wives can play in formation.

During a discussion on clericalism one group asked how we could prevent a "bad culture" of clericalism. They pointed out that clericalism exists in some sections of the laity as well as among the clergy.

The group on governance questioned why women don't have a significant role in governance.

While many members expressed hope about the assembly, others expressed anxiety and emphasised a sense of urgency for change.

The live stream of daily Masses and Plenary Council sessions can be accessed at the Plenary Council website or the Plenary Council YouTube channel. www.plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au

Podcasts being broadcast daily by the Catholic broadcaster, Geraldine Doogue, at <https://podcasts.apple.com/au/podcast/plenary-matters/id1587458085>

Francis Sullivan, the head of Catholic Social Services Australia, is also publishing his daily report at <https://cssa.org.au/plenary-council/> Francis Sullivan is a delegate to the Council. He has drawn attention to the stigma surrounding LGBTI people. He states: "The church runs the risk of leaving LGBTI people at the margins. Rather than meeting them and bringing them into the fold they remain off the agenda, left in the too hard basket."

We pray for the outpouring of the Holy Spirit leading to the new Pentecost in Australia.

Chris Hartcher.





**We are still making a difference in
Covid times for Mary Macs
at Woy Woy.**

**Thank you to our lovely loyal parishioners and
Georges Fruit Barn for their generosity.**



**CatholicCare: keeping seniors connected and active during
lockdown**

Explore dance, fitness, technology, creativity, nutrition, tai chi and more with CatholicCare. Our Memory Innovations Centre improves quality of life, wellbeing and helps support positive brain health for seniors in our community.

Our professionally run programs focus on having fun, connecting with others and stimulating your brain. Programs are currently being delivered online during the lockdown and you can join anytime. For more information visit www.catholiccaredbb.org.au/aged-care/memory-innovations-centre or call (02) 9488 2659.

Pathways

This is a Parish Renewal & Discipleship e-newsletter from the diocese which keeps us up up-to-date with resources that are being offered online. If you want to be included in the mail-out, send a request faith.formation@bbcatholic.org.au

Cleaning out the office I came across this joke that dear Joe from our gathering group gave me 11 years ago ! Joe has since died and he always liked to share a good laugh so here it is. Janette

A teenage boy had just passed his driving test and asked his father as to when they could discuss his use of the car.

His father said he'd make a deal with his son, "You bring your grades up from a C to a B average, study your Bible a little and get your hair cut, then we'll talk about the car" The boy thought about that for a moment, decided he'd settle for the offer and they agreed on it.


After about six weeks his father said, "Son, you've brought your grades up and I've observed that you have been studying your Bible, but I'm disappointed you haven't had your hair cut."

The boy said, "You know, Dad, I've been thinking about that, and I've noticed in my studies of the Bible that Samson had long hair, John the Baptist had long hair, Moses had long hair, and there's even strong evidence that Jesus had long hair."

The father responded, "Did you also notice that they all walked everywhere they went?"



Faith DOES NOT
MAKE THINGS EASY
IT MAKES THEM
possible
Provs 1:5f

You are Beautiful
For you are fearfully 
and wonderfully made...
Psalm 139:14



Evangelisation Broken Bay has launched a new program of online events called Bay Connect. The program provides an online program of regular activities to converse, reflect and connect spiritually online during this challenging time.

The program commenced last Monday, and will continue:

SO NOT TOO LATE TO JUMP ON BOARD

• THE CHOSEN MONDAY

Mondays @ 7:30-8:45pm via Zoom - Join us as we go through the first season of *The Chosen*, viewing one episode every Monday, breaking open some themes and coming to know Jesus in a fresh new way.

• TUESDAY NIGHT LIGHTS

Tuesdays @ 7:00-7:30pm via Instagram Live (@cybbaus) - A place for the community to come together for prayer and to praise God from the setting of your home. All youth, young adults, singles and families, parishioners and clergy are invited.

• HUMPDAY HANGOUT WITH BR BERNARD

Wednesdays @ 7:00-7:30pm via Zoom - Our Franciscan friar Br. Bernard Mary will host the session with time for prayer, 'Banger' of the week, casual chat and an entertaining selection of activities.

• FORMATION FRIDAYS

Fridays @ 7:00-8:00pm via Zoom - An opportunity to get some simple Catholic formation on various aspects of the faith, from the basics to the hot topics, featuring a different guest speaker each week, followed by some time for questions/discussion.

To find out more and register online, visit the Bay Connect page on the Diocese of Broken Bay website <https://www.bbcatholic.org.au/news/covid-19-updates/prayer-resources/bay-connect>

MARY MACKILLOP ROSARY BEADS FOR SALE TO HELP AID THE CHURCH IN NEED —If you would



like to place an order and reserve a pair or more, Please ring or email the parish office or phone Janette 0421416555.

They are really lovely and would suit a male or female as a special gift. RRP \$40 (WE ARE SELLING FOR \$35)

The money raised from the sale of the rosaries will assist the works of Aid to the Church in Need in its support of suffering and persecuted Christians around the world .

These rosary beads were designed and handmade in Italy by the Ghirelli family who have been producing rosaries for over thirty years, including the official rosaries for the last three Popes.

This set features Mary MacKillop on the central medal with her name and canonisation date on the reverse side. The Our Father medals show Our Lady, St Joseph, the Sacred Heart and Mary MacKillop's words 'Trust in God.' The crucifix is intricate, emphasising the Sacred Heart of Jesus.

All the medals and links are finished in vintage bronze and the actual beads are faceted copper bohemian glass. Recommended retail is \$40.00 + postage (our price\$35).

We have placed another order as we sold out. So we have another 20 sets available now.

All youth and young adults from across the Diocese of Broken Bay are invited to tune into Tuesday Night Lights!

If you're not sure where you're at with God, you're totally welcome too – come along and see what it's like. You can tune in every Tuesday @ 7:00-7:30pm via our the @cybbaus Instagram Live as well as Facebook and

Connected in Christ Resource

Each week the Evangelisation Broken Bay team will provide Gospel readings, prayers, reflections and children's activities for families to worship and pray at home in this extended period of lockdown.

Download this week's resource [here](#).



SACRAMENTAL ENROLMENT

Catch-up Program at Terrigal Parish

Enrolling Year 4 and over for the Sacrament of Reconciliation (or Confession) has begun.

A COVID SAFE PROGRAM

STILL NOT TOO LATE !

This Catch-up Program has been organised for primary school (Year 4 and over), high school students and adults who have missed out on making any of the sacraments.

Any enquiries to Janette 0421416555

Formation will be through the resource book and personal communication via phone or zoom. We will work together !



We pray for : Recently Deceased

Christine Casey	Thomas Wardlaw	Lyn Griffiths
Robert Shipley	Ron Cremen	Sheila Mary
Ashurst	Kevin Duffey	Rosalia Rocca
Carrie Armstrong		Anne Cuthbert

Anniversaries & Remembrance

Jim Donohoe Christopher Grouse Mary Lochens
Georgina & Tom Richardson

Sick

Gay Walker	Anne Perry	Len Freeman	Noel Nacua
Sue Southwell	Noleen Sherwood	Daphne Beasley	
Jenny Imbruglia	Sandra Tagliabue	Deanna Browning	
Mike Caruana	Kathleen Little	Fiona Connelly	
Kevin Duffy	Eileen Ledwidge	Warren Smith	
Bishop Bill Wright (Maitland– Newcastle Diocese.)			

Parish Finances

Thank you to the many parishioners who have been contributing online to the parish account during the lockdown.

Please note the NEW ACCOUNT NUMBER

Terrigal Parish Working Account

BSB: 062784

A/C: 100001660

Add *Donation* and *Your Name* as a reference.

You can also have an amount debited from your credit or debit card each month. Please contact the parish office on 4367 4610 to make the necessary arrangements.

This is a good opportunity to swap the Planned Giving Envelopes for the credit or debit card monthly system. Payments are taken out on the 3rd week of the month. You keep the same Planned Giving number, but they are not recorded, as they are not tax deductible.

If you need a tax receipt for your business or privately you may want to choose making a monthly credit card donation to Pastoral Works Broken Bay (previously known as CWF). This still helps our parish as it comes off our quota.

Spiritual Corner: Feasts and saints of the week: **(Our extended family in Heaven).**

Monday 11 St John XXIII The high point of his reign was the Second Vatican Council, nicknamed Vatican II, which opened on October 11, 1962. In calling the ecumenical council, he sought a “New Pentecost,” a new outpouring of the Holy Spirit. He sought reconciliation for the world’s divided Christianity and invited Eastern Orthodox, Anglican, and Protestant observers to attend the proceedings. This ecumenical council of the Roman Catholic Church—the first in 92 years, summoning the bishops of the church—the pope hoped to bring spiritual rebirth to Catholicism and cultivate greater unity with the other branches of Christianity.



Pope John reached the papacy from simple, peasant beginnings. Born Angelo Giuseppe Roncalli in 1881, he was the son of an Italian tenant farmer. He was ordained a priest in 1904, and worked as a professor, part-time historian, biographer, and diplomat. As papal envoy to Turkey during [World War II](#), he saved thousands of Jewish lives by helping arrange their escape to [Palestine](#). Roncalli’s first high-profile post came in 1944, when he was named papal nuncio to Charles de Gaulle’s newly liberated France. It was a delicate post; He carried out the assignment with grace and in 1953 was made a cardinal.

After Pope Pius XII died in 1958, Roncalli was elected leader of the Roman Catholic Church on the 12th ballot. At 77 years of age, he was regarded as an “interim” pope by the Vatican Curia, someone who would follow the status quo for a few years while a younger prelate was bred to succeed him. However, Pope John XXIII soon surprised the Vatican’s conservative leadership by taking steps to modernize the church. He met with political and religious leaders from around the world and was the first modern pope to travel freely in Rome, breaking with the tradition that made the pope a “prisoner of the Vatican.” He had a warm personality, and spoke with peasants as freely as he did with the foreign dignitaries he invited to Rome. Adored by the Catholic masses, he gradually became a kind of father figure for Catholics around the world. Pope John XXIII died in June 1963, but the council continued under his successor, Paul VI, until 1965. In 2000, Pope John Paul II beatified John XXIII. On April 15 2014 Pope John XXIII and Pope John Paul II were made into saints an unprecedented double papal canonization.

In this time of plenary Council may these great Popes and Saints pray for us.



Tuesday 12 Our Lady of the Pillar is the name given to the Blessed Virgin Mary in the context of the traditional belief that Mary, while living in Jerusalem, supernaturally appeared to the Apostle James the Greater in AD 40 while he was preaching in what is now Spain. Those who adhere to this belief consider this appearance to be the only recorded instance of Mary exhibiting the mystical phenomenon of bilocation. Among Catholics, it is also considered the first Marian apparition, and unique because it happened while Mary was still living on Earth.

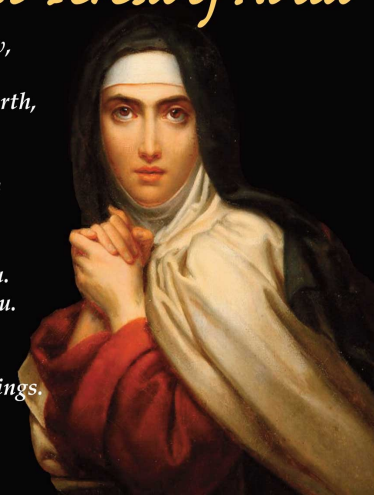
Wednesday 13 St Edward the Confessor Edward the Confessor was one of the last Anglo-Saxon kings of England. Usually considered the last king of the House of Wessex, he ruled from 1042 to 1066. Edward was known for his religious faith (he is known as 'the Confessor' because his life was characterised by piety and religious belief). Edward was canonised in 1161 and is considered a saint by the Roman Catholic Church, which regards Edward the Confessor as the patron saint of kings, difficult marriages, and separated spouses.



Thursday 14 St Callistus 1, Pope & martyr Callistus was proclaimed pope in 219 over the protests of his rival candidate Hippolytus. Callistus came to power during a crucial time of the Church. Was it going to hang on to the rigid rules of previous years and limit itself to those who were already saints or was it going to embrace sinners as Christ commanded? Was its mission only to a few holy ones or to the whole world, to the healthy or to the sick? We can understand Hippolytus' fear -- that hypocritical penitents would use the Church and weaken it in the time when they faced persecution. But Callistus chose to trust God's mercy and love and opened the doors. By choosing Christ's mission, he chose to spread the Gospel to all. Pope Callistus is listed as a martyr but we have no record of how he was martyred or by whom. There were no official persecutions at the time, but he may well have been killed in riots against Christians.



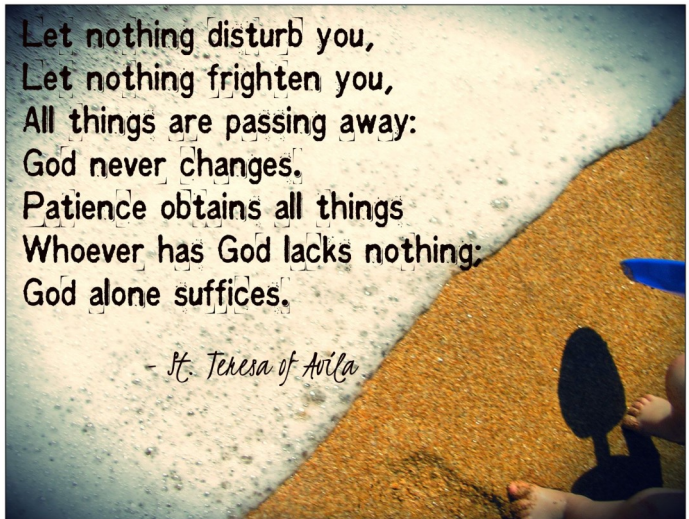
Friday 15 St Teresa of Avila , born **Teresa Sánchez de Cepeda y Ahumada**, also known as **Saint Teresa of Jesus** 28 March 1515 – 4 or 15 October 1582, was a Spanish noblewoman who felt called to convent life in the Catholic Church. A Carmelite nun, prominent Spanish mystic, religious reformer, author, theologian of the contemplative life and of mental prayer, she earned the rare distinction of being declared a Doctor of the Church, but not until over four centuries after her death. Active during the Catholic Reformation, she reformed the Carmelite Orders of both women and men. The movement she initiated was later joined by the younger Spanish Carmelite friar and mystic John of the Cross. It led eventually to the establishment of the Discalced Carmelites. A formal papal decree adopting the split from the old order was issued in 1580.



Prayers of St Teresa of Avila

Christ has no body now,
but yours.
No hands, no feet on earth,
but yours.
Yours are the eyes
through which he looks
with compassion
on this world.

Let nothing disturb you.
Let nothing frighten you.
All things pass away:
God never changes.
Patience obtains all things.
Those who have God
find they lack nothing;
God alone suffices.

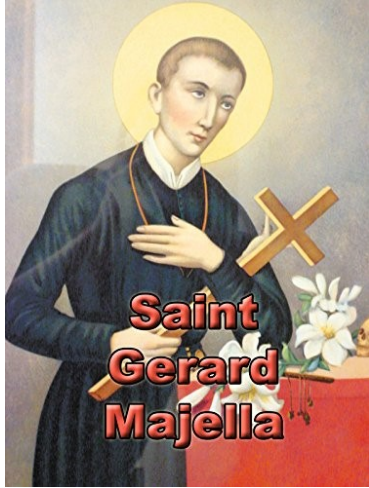


Let nothing disturb you,
Let nothing frighten you,
All things are passing away:
God never changes.
Patience obtains all things
Whoever has God lacks nothing:
God alone suffices.

- St. Teresa of Avila

Saturday 16 St Gerard Majella known as the mother's saint

St. Gerard the patron of expectant mothers. He was born in 1726 in Muro, Italy to a family of seven. Majella grew up in poverty with a great respect for the poor. When he was just 12 his father passed away and he was forced to grow up quickly. Shortly after his father's death, his mother sent him away to live with his uncle and learn to become a tailor, like his father. After a few years of working as a sewing apprentice, Majella took on a job with the local Bishop of Lacedonia as a servant.



Once Majella began earning money as a journeyman at the age of 21, he split his earnings with his mother and the poor of Muro, and the rest in offerings for the poor souls. As the days passed, Majella began to grow pale and thin, often fasting and in prayer at a nearby Cathedral.

He applied to the Capuchin monastery at Muro twice, but was turned down both times. Majella was told his health was not well enough for such a strenuous life. However, Majella did not give up. In 1749, at the age of 23, he joined the Congregation of the Most Holy Redeemer and just three years later became a professed lay brother.



Who except
GOD CAN GIVE
YOU PEACE?
Has
THE WORLD EVER
been able
TO SATISFY THE HEART?

...
- St. Gerard Majella

Saturday 16 St Margaret Mary Alacoque Margaret Mary Alacoque, (July 22, 1647 – October 17, 1690) was a French Roman Catholic Visitation nun and mystic, Margaret Mary was chosen by Christ to arouse the Church to a realization of the love of God symbolized by the heart of Jesus.



A prayer to the sacred Heart of Jesus

O most holy heart of Jesus, fountain of every blessing, I adore you, I love you, and with lively sorrow for my sins I offer you this poor heart of mine. Make me humble, patient, pure and wholly obedient to your will. Grant, Good Jesus, that I may live in you and for you. Protect me in the midst of danger. Comfort me in my afflictions. Give me health of body, assistance in my temporal needs, your blessing on all that I do, and the grace of a holy death. Amen. .

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