

OUR LADY STAR OF THE SEA, TERRIGAL

"May we Love one Another,

that all experience a Sense of Belonging"

24th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME Year B

12 September 2021

First Reading: A reading from Isaiah 50:5-9

The Lord has opened my ear. For my part, I made no resistance, neither did I turn away. I offered my back to those who struck me, my cheeks to those who tore at my beard; I did not cover my face against insult and spittle.

The Lord comes to my help, so that I am untouched by the insults. So, too, I set my face like flint; I know I shall not be shamed.

My vindicator is here at hand. Does anyone start proceedings against me? Then let us go to court together.

Who thinks he has a case against me? Let him approach me. The Lord is coming to my help,

who dare condemn me?

The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

Psalm: 114:1-6.8-9 R I will walk in the presence of the Lord,

Second Reading: James 2:14-18

Take the case, my brothers, of someone who has never done a single good act but claims that he has faith. Will that faith save him? If one of the brothers or one of the sisters is in need of clothes and has not enough food to live on, and one of you says to them, 'I wish you well; keep yourself warm and eat plenty,' without giving them these bare necessities of life, then what good is that? Faith is like that: if good works do not go with it, it is quite dead.

This is the way to talk to people of that kind: 'You say you have faith and I have good deeds; I will prove to you that I have faith by showing you my good deeds - now you prove to me that you have faith without any good deeds to show.'

The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.



Lose your life

for Jesus and you will save it.

James 2:15-18

Gospel: Mark 8:27-35

Jesus and his disciples left for the villages round Caesarea Philippi. On the way he put this question to his disciples, 'Who do people say I am?' And they told him. 'John the Baptist,' they said, 'others Elijah; others again, one of the prophets.' 'But you,' he asked, 'who do you say I am?' Peter spoke up and said to him, 'You are the Christ.' And he gave them strict orders not to tell anyone about him.

And he began to teach them that the Son of Man was destined to suffer grievously, to be rejected by the elders and the chief priests and the scribes, and to be put to death, and after three days to rise again; and he said all this quite openly. Then, taking him aside, Peter started to remonstrate with him. But, turning and seeing his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said to him, 'Get behind me, Satan! Because the way you think is not God's way but man's.'

He called the people and his disciples to him and said, 'If anyone wants to be a follower of mine, let him renounce himself and take up his cross and follow me. For anyone who wants to save his life will lose it; but anyone who loses his life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it.'

The Gospel of the Lord. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

To pray together or write your own prayers PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

LEADER

Jesus dares us to let go of our lives in order to save them. Let us give ourselves in prayer to the needs of the world.

READER

We pray for Pope Francis, that his pastoral visit to Hungary and Slovakia will inspire the baptised to profess their faith in Jesus and follow him even on the way of the cross.

Lord hear us. All: Lord hear our prayer.

We pray for the world's democratic nations, that this week's International Day of Democracy (15 September) will strengthen appreciation for justice, freedom, respect and participation. Lord hear us. All: Lord hear our prayer.

We pray for the whole human family, that all will take up their role as stewards of creation and join together in caring for the earth, our common home. Lord hear us. All: Lord hear our prayer.

We pray for leaders responsible for COVID decisionmaking, that they will exercise their authority with wisdom, courage and clarity, and always for the common good. Lord hear us. All: Lord hear our prayer.

We pray for those who make and administer Australian migration policy, that Citizenship Day (17 Sept) will persuade them to end the punitive treatment of temporary visa holders. Lord hear us. All: Lord hear our prayer.

We pray for the participants in next month's Plenary Council, that they will speak out in the Spirit, listen with freedom of heart, and discern what God is asking of the church in Australia. Lord hear us. All: Lord hear our prayer.

We pray for the residents and staff of aged care facilities, that they will be assured of conditions that foster safety, respect for human dignity, and positive well-being. Lord hear us. All: Lord hear our prayer.

We pray for those who have died, especially ..., that they will be led to the glory of the Risen Lord. Lord hear us. All: Lord hear our prayer.

LEADER

Faithful God, you raised your servant-Son from cross to glory. Help us follow him with all our hearts. We ask this through Christ our Lord. All: Amen.

Easing COVID Restrictions

As you would have heard, the current COVID restrictions will be lifted from the Monday after NSW passes the 70 per cent double vaccination target. Only fully vaccinated people and those with medical exemptions will have access to the freedoms which will include Churches to open, subject to one person per 4sqm rule. Masks will be required and there will be no singing.

Also, up to 50 guests can attend funerals, with eating and drinking permitted while seated (at the wake) and up to 50 guests can attend weddings, with dancing permitted and eating and drinking while seated (at the Reception).

We are waiting for details from the Diocese, but this is good news which means that most of us will be able to return to church soon, hopefully about the middle of October.

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

ITS 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 enquries to Janette 0421416555

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



Local COVID update

During the week we received the news that Our Lady of the Rosary Catholic Primary School at **The Entrance** had closed because someone attending the school had tested positive for the virus. The close contacts to this person need to isolate for 14 days.

Also, an attendee at a funeral last week at Mary MacKillop at **Warnervale** tested positive for COVID. As a result, the church has been closed for a deep clean and the Parish Priest and the ten people who attended the funeral are in self-isolation for 14 days. All the safety protocols were in place and, so far, no-one has shown any symptoms.

This could be us. Please make sure that around the church and school you follow all the protocols that are now so familiar.

The Parenting Children Course

As part of the Bay Connect series of on-line events, the Life, Marriage and Family team will be running The Parenting Children Course. The Parenting Children Course is for parents of young children seeking connection and support during lockdown while learning new skills. It's fun, hopeful and designed to inspire confidence in your abilities as a parent. To find out more watch this short video Starts 21 September 2021 at 7.30pm via zoom. Click HERE for more information and registration details.

Date: From Wednesday 1 September

Time: 11.00am-12.00pm AEST

Register Here

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

Season of Creation

I September to 4 October (the feast of St. Francis of Assisi) is the Season of Creation.

This is an annual event, where Christians and others around the world renew their relationship with their Creator, and with all creation. They do this through celebration, conversion and commitment to an integral ecology, emphasizing our common home.

Pope Francis calls on Catholics to take part in this time of celebration. His theme is "A Home for All". It is an Ecumenical event!

There are many avenues and plans all over the world where people come together to help save and protect God's creation. Parishes may become involved by exploring Pope Francis Encyclical:

Laudato Si - in caring for our common home!

Thank you for sending your picture of your sacred space, prayer space or religious corner....A visible sign of our Faith. A few more were added this week .We pray for you when we look at the different families and people represented. Just email yours to the parish email!



Grow Closer to Mary

Why should we want to grow closer to Mary, the mother Jesus? Because she draws us closer to Christ and deeper into the heart of the Church. Mary is a member of our faith family who holds a unique place in the story of salvation. Here are some ways to grow in appreciation of her amazing Spirit-led vocation as Mother of God and Mother of the Church.

- **1. Learn from others**. Do you know someone with a healthy, vibrant love for Mary? Spend time with this person and allow his/her love for Mary to influence your own faith perspective.
- **2. Read a good book**. Rediscover Mary through the eyes of contemporary scholarship. Find out what the reputable theologians are saying about Mary and her relevance to the world today. Check out a good Catholic bookshop or website.
- **3. Gaze upon an icon.** The history of Christian art includes striking icons of Mary that draw the viewer to contemplate the Christian mystery. Pray before a Marian icon and allow the Holy Spirit to 'speak' to you through the image. Adorn your home with an icon or statue of Mary.
- **4. Teach your children.** Teach your children about Mary: who she was, what she did, why the Church honours her today. You may need to do some homework yourself, but that's OK. We learn best when we teach others.
- **5. Pray with Mary.** The Church's tradition contains many beautiful Marian prayers and images, not least the rosary. We have the traditional joyful, sorrowful and glorious mysteries, to which has been added five new mysteries called the 'mysteries of light'. Incorporate some of these riches into your prayer life.
- **6. Be open to Marian charisms.** The Church is home to numerous religious congregations and groups who profess a special love for Mary. Call upon such people to share with you their Marian charism and any resources and publications that might be available through their networks.
- **7. Be formed through song.** Music and song are a wonderful medium for touching hearts. Obtain a CD of Marian hymns, or download them on Spotify or find some on the net. These may be traditional or contemporary. Introduce these musical prayers to your home and your prayer life.
- **6. Celebrate her feast days.** Take note of the Marian solemnities and feast days which pepper the Church's calendar such as Mary the Mother of God, Our Lady Star of the Sea, the Assumption, her birthday last week or Our Lady of Sorrows this week. Take time to reflect on the meaning of these celebrations and the way they highlight the various dimensions of the mystery of faith.
- **9. Follow her story in the scriptures.** Mary, the Jewish mother of Jesus, appears in the bible at significant points in the unfolding of Jesus' life, death and resurrection: at his conception and birth, in the temple, his journey to manhood, at Cana, at Calvary, at the birth of the Church at Pentecost... Allow Mary to enfold you in her relationship with Jesus by meditating on the relevant scripture passages.
- **10. Draw close to the saints.** The great saints of the Church had a deep love for Mary. When praying with or reading about a particular saint be attentive to his/her love for Mary. Open yourself to their Marian perspective.

Helpful Hint. Today there is a renewed and growing interest in Mary, even amongst people who are not Catholics. In this post-Vatican II era, the Church today is in a position to rediscover the beauty of its Marian heritage and the powerful role Mary plays in the life of God's people. With confidence pursue your calling to follow Christ, with Mary as your companion.

Adapted by Fr Vince from Ten Ways to Grow Closer to Mary by Teresa Pirola

Who taught you to pray? Why not be a catechist? Jesus is calling. You can do it! Just trust him.





Bored or looking for something different?

Re-activate yourself.

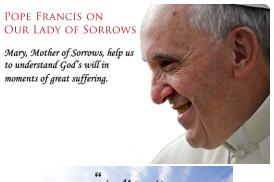
Use those hidden talents. You can find the time. Surprise yourself.



Grow your faith. Walk with Jesus. Be an evangelist. Time to give back. You will not regret it. Let's talk about it. We will help you.

For more information, please call one of the following catechists. Phone – Cheryl Ryan, Primary Cate-

chist Coordinator 0403 123 220 or bondi-two@bigpond.co Graham and Maria Sproats catechists, 0417 279 694 or mariasproats@yahoo.com.au Elias Bastoli Catechist, 0459 220 408 or stolibas@bigpond.com









Repairs and Maintenance at OLSS School

As part of the Diocese of Broken Bay Repairs and Maintenance Program, OLSS School will be part of some ongoing work throughout Term 4 in the classrooms of Kindergarten to Year 4. The work involved will include:

- The re-design of cabinetry at the front of the classrooms
- Carpeting in several rooms
- The painting of walls
- Installation of new whiteboards
- Repair of minor trip hazards
- Audits of electrical switchboards

In addition to the Repairs and Maintenance Program are two additional projects, which the school will engage in over the coming term.

The first of these is the installation of a perimeter fence of the school site. The perimeter fence will enclose the entire school site including the oval area and the land behind the current K, 3 and 4 classrooms. The carpark will remain unfenced, to allow for uninterrupted use by the Parish at all times.

The second major project will involve the removal of the current kindergarten demountable toilet block and the extension of the toilet facilities adjacent to the main assembly area playground. The current demountable toilets have been deemed both unsafe in their location and not up to the current standard of facilities that schools should expect. This will be a welcome addition to the school site.

The exact start dates for each of these projects is still being determined but it is expected that at the very least, preparations for the Repairs and Maintenance of the school will begin in the upcoming school holidays. The Parish will be informed of the dates as soon as they become available.

Vision on a Page

Last week Bishop Anthony launched the Diocesan **Vision on a Page** which he said is a single vision for our Community of the Church to evangelise, to proclaim the Good News of Jesus Christ, gathered as one body and sent out to be missionary disciples. He detailed the synergies between our six Mission Priorities and the relationship between our supporting "close collaborators" and our Fields of Mission, namely the Parishes, Communities of Faith, Catholic Schools and CatholicCare who are called to be Christ-centred, people oriented and united in collaboration. The vision is underpinned and flamed by our values of Faith, Joy, Witness, Compassion and Courage.

Vision on a Page The Community of the Church of Broken Bay



The Catholic Diocese of Broken Bay is a portion of the people of God, a community of Christ's faithful in communion of faith and sacraments with its bishop. It exists to evangelise, to proclaim the Good News of Jesus Christ, gathered as one body and sent out to be missionary disciples.

6 Mission Priorities



Bishop Anthony Randazzo articulates six pastoral priorities to be placed at the centre of mission for the Diocese.

- The person of Jesus Christ, and his message of Good News. (1 John 1:1-4)
- The Holy Spirit leads us in the way of discipleship. (Matthew 28:18-20)
 - Commission Evangelisation & Mission

- Building together a culture of vocation for all the baptised.
- A united message reflecting the voice of the bishop at the service of his people. (Colossians 2:2-3)
 - Community **Ecclesial Gathering**
- Authentic Catholic education for the flourishing of human and faith development.
- Justice and mercy place the poor at the heart of the Church. (Matthew 25:40)

Common Good Justice & Peace

3 Foundational Pillars

Three pillars form a foundation for mission for the Diocese. We stand on these pillars as we go about our work to achieve the six mission priorities.

Support

Council of Priests, College of Consultors, Deans, Chancery & Services



Supporting the Fields of Mission in the areas of Evangelisation, Stewardship, Safeguarding & Communications.

Application

3 Fields of Mission



The community of the Church of Broken Bay is made up of 215,000 Catholics that live within the geographic territory. It is called to be Christ-centred and people oriented, emphasising unity and collaboration between parishes, communities of faith, schools and social services.

Parishes & Communities of Faith

The community of communities that comprises the Church in Broken Bay proclaims the Good News of Jesus Christ with a focus on parish renewal and discipleship.

Catholic Schools **Broken Bay**

Authentic, professional Catholic education. delivered with care and compassion.

CatholicCare **Broken Bay**

Social care services and works of mercy offered to all, in the spirit of our gospel values, serving in justice and love.

Values













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 jolly 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

Something to ponder



From Francis the comic strip— National Catholic Reporter



Tm not going to be caught out again by lockdown. I'm moving in with my hairdresser'



September is Safeguarding Month

This year's theme is *Participation of Children and Young People in Catholic Communities*. To celebrate Safeguarding Month you are welcome to participate in the following events (click here to download invitation):

Sunday 12 September

The Catholic Church in Australia marks Safeguarding Sunday.

Join Bishop Anthony Randazzo in celebrating Mass at 9.30am via live stream from the Cathedral. Click here to participate in the Mass https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCNenwlf17i14XB9TsVBrLvQ

Participation of Children and Young People in Catholic Communities: A Guide to Supporting & Engaging, Listening and Communicating with Children and Young People is a booklet developed and published by the Safeguarding Offices of the Diocese of Broken Bay, Archdiocese of Sydney and Diocese of Parramatta. Booklet can be accessed here: https://www.bbcatholic.org.au/about/safeguarding/safeguarding-month-2021

The September issue of Broken Bay News is now available online.

This issue features:

Bishop Anthony's message about looking after your spiritual wellbeing the new Pastoral Discernment Project on the Central Coast online parenting help in lockdown
Bishop David Walker's 25th anniversary
and so much more.

Read it online at

https://issuu.com/bbcatholic/docs/broken bay news september 2021 issue 211



Connected in Christ

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 Connected in Christ





HELP TO AID THE CHURCH IN NEED

The mony 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.

Each rosary comes in its own keepsake pouch. This commemorative rosary has been produced with the consultation and approval of the Sisters of St Joseph of the Sacred Heart.

Recommended retail is \$40.00 + postage

We will sell in the parish for \$35.00 . We placed an initial order for only 20 sets. These would make a special gift for Christmas or just to have yourself.

If you would like to reserve a pair or two let us now ASAP, so I know whether to add to our bulk order. Please email the parish or phone Janette 0421416555

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

With the NSW Government extending the Sydney lockdown, our churches in Broken Bay remain closed. Some parishes are live streaming Mass. Please <u>click here</u> for all the details.

Mass For You At Home

"Mass for you at Home" is broadcast on Channel 10 at 6.00am Sunday, and is available to watch on YouTube.

The Mass is also available on YouTube from 7.00am on Sunday https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC56U6_XgoR3bJBqClxLLp4Q

COVID-19 Updates on the Intranet

The latest COVID-19 updates on restrictions and the Diocese of Broken Bay's response can now be found at: https://intranet.bbcatholic.org.au/resources/covid-19-update-for-parishes

SJAB (Social Justice Around the Bay), St. Vincent de Paul,

Northern Sydney/ Central Coast Regional Social Justice Committee and

Jesuit Refugee Service Australia (JRS) is holding a Webinar titled:

Hope Out of Horror – Seeking Refuge in Australia

Thursday, September 23, 7pm – 8pmThis is the chance to hear the Stories of those seeking Refuge and Asylum in Australia and to join a cry to Canberra to:

- Offer Permanent Protection to all Refugees
 Enable access to Family Reunions for Refugees
 Offer a Safety Net, including Medical and Financial Assistance to those in need of refuge
 REGISTRATION FOR THIS EVENT IS ESSENTIAL
- Please register your attendance click on the link below and pass the link on.

https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/stories-of-hope-and -courage-seeking-refugee-in-australia-tickets-166888717647



August 'Pastoral Works Broken Bay' Appeal

At this time, due to COVID-19, we are not able to have our usual August appeal for Pastoral Works Broken Bay. However, we sincerely appreciate any support that might be afforded – no matter how big or how small. The ministries the fund supports continue to operate and provide vital services. Donations can be made:

- through the "donate now" button on our new parish website
- at <u>www.bbcatholic.org.au/pastoralworks</u>

THANK YOU

directly to the Terrigal Parish Account BSB: 062784 A/C: 100001660
 or leave in an envelope in the slot in the door of the Parish Office.

New collection envelopes for Pastoral Works BB Appeal will be available when parishes reopen.

IN THIS TIME OF PANDEMIC AND TOUGH TIMES: CatholicCare support IS available



STOP EUTHENASIA IN NSW

https://www.noeuthanasia.org.au/protect_life_nsw



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.

On a Church Sign in Sydney:

Social Distancing does not apply to God Draw near to Him.

Wills and Bequests

Why is it important to have a will?

It is important to prepare a will to ensure that the things you own are distributed to your family, friends, Church community or charities according to your wishes at the time you pass away. A will provides you with the peace of mind of knowing the security of your loved ones has been ensured.

First and foremost a will should provide for your family.

If you don't have a will when you die, your goods are distributed according to a set formula, which may not reflect your intentions.

It is advisable to seek professional advice and assistance when making a will.

Your solicitor can confidentially discuss your concerns and requirements and can prepare a will for you to ensure that your wishes regarding your estate are honoured. If you do not have a solicitor, please contact the Law Society of NSW who can provide a solicitor referral service.

Law Society of NSW. Solicitor Referral Service: Website Sydney: (02) 9926 0300. Outside Sydney: 1800 422 713 Email: crs@lawsociety.com.au

Bequests: Remembering your faith community in your will.

After providing for family members in your will, have you ever considered leaving a bequest directly to the parish? This is called a legacy or bequest.

Over the years, many people who have felt a special connection with the parish have left part of their estate to the parish. Like a gift to a charity, a bequest of any amount to the Church is a way of saying "thank you" for the spiritual nurturing provided to you and your family over the years.

A bequest to the parish, no matter how small, will help the faith community to continue its good works and its loving outreach. It is also a means by which you can plan a lasting gift for your parish which might not be possible in your lifetime.

Suggested wording to make a bequest to the parish.

"I give to the Trustees of the Roman Catholic Church for the Diocese of Broken Bay, (ABN 79 031 652 544) as trustee for the Catholic Parish of Our Lady Star of the Sea, Terrigal in the State of New South Wales for its general purposes, the sum of \$....., or percent of my estate, or the property at (or other specific items0, free of all duties, taxes and other deductions of whatever kind.

I declare that the receipt for the same signed by the Bishop of the Diocese, or other designated officer, shall be sufficient discharge to my Executors and Trustees."

If you would like to know more about how to remember your local Parish or the Diocese of Broken Bay in your will, please contact Mr David Armstrong on (02) 8379 1664 or email bequests@bbcatholic.org.au. You can be assured that all enquiries are obligation free and are treated with the strictest confidence.

We pray for: Recently Deceased

Fr Jim Duck Fr Paul Purcell Anthony Wallace

Ken White Sue Rolls Jeannette Hyland

Anne Cuthbert Donald Holmes Ben Donaldson
Marcia Harris Christopher Richards Karen Scali
Ivan Kopecky Frank Sprakel Grace O'Flynn

Anniversaries & Remembrance

Richard Bell Frank Hanlon

Joseph Baildon Morton & Burnham Families

Sick

Noel Nacua John Goodwin Sue Southwell
Noleen Sherwood Daphne Beasley Jenny Imbruglia
Sandra Tagliabue John Schipp Deanna Browning
Mike Carvana Kathleen Little Fiona Connelly

Kevin Duffy

Parish Finances

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

Please note the NEW CORRECT ACCOUNT NUMBER

Terrigal Parish Working Account

BSB: 062784

A/C: 100001660 (1(four Zeros)166<u>0</u>)

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 13 St John Chrysostom Bishop and Doctor was born in 347 in Antioch . He learned rhetoric and Greek

literature. He was gifted with language, John then became a hermit, being purified with fasting and prayer, coming to know his Lord in the silence of prayer. When poor health forced his return to Antioch, his gift with words, now purified by years of silent meditation on God's Word, came alive again. John, ordained a priest, began to preach in Antioch's cathedral. People came and the word began to spread: this preacher is "Chrysostom," golden-mouthed. His words were not easy, but they were like gold: clear and full of God's light.

Day in and day out he broke open the word for them, exhorted them, and called them out for their lack of love. He reminded them of the unity of the Eucharistic liturgy with the liturgy of their lives: "Do you wish to honor the body of Christ? Do not ignore him when he is naked.... He who said: 'This is my body' is the same who said: 'You saw me hungry and you gave me no food,' and 'Whatever you did to



the least of my brothers you did also to me'... What good is it if the Eucharistic table is overloaded with golden chalices when your brother is dying of hunger?"

In 397, against his will and knowledge, the golden-mouthed preacher was nominated archbishop, of Patriarch, of Constantinople, the capital of the Empire. Constantinople may have been the center of the Christian Empire, but the lifestyle of many of its wealthier inhabitants was far from holy. John saw this, and his gift with words spilled over into eloquent homilies.

A quote for today from St John:

Prayer is the place of refuge for every worry, a foundation for cheerfulness, a source of constant happiness, a protection against sadness.

Tuesday 14 Exaltation of the Cross In the Christian liturgical calendar, there are several different Feasts of the Cross, all of which commemorate the cross used in the crucifixion of Jesus. Unlike Good Friday, which is dedicated to the passion of Christ and the crucifixion, these feast days celebrate the cross itself, as the sign of salvation.



Wednesday 15 Our Lady of Sorrows The title, Our Lady of Sorrows, given to our Blessed Mother, focuses on her intense suffering and grief during the passion and death of our Lord. Traditionally, this suffering was not limited to the passion and



death event; rather, it comprised the seven dolors or seven sorrows of Mary, which were foretold by the Priest Simeon who proclaimed to Mary: This child [Jesus] is destined to be the downfall and the rise of many in Israel, a sign that will be opposed and you yourself shall be pierced with a sword so that the thoughts of many hearts may be laid bare (Luke 2:34-35). These seven sorrows of our Blessed Mother included the flight of the Holy Family into Egypt; the loss and finding of the child Jesus in the Temple; Mary's meeting of Jesus on His way to Calvary; Mary's standing at the foot of the cross when our Lord was crucified; her holding of Jesus when He was taken down from the cross; and then our Lord's burial. In all, the prophesy of Simeon that a sword would pierce our Blessed Mother's heart was fulfilled in these events. For this reason, Mary is sometimes depicted with her heart exposed and with seven

swords piercing it. More importantly, each new suffering was received with the courage, love, and trust that echoed her fiat, let it be done unto me according to Thy word, first uttered at the Annunciation.

Thursday 16 St Cornelius Pope & St Cyprian bishop both martyrs Pope Cornelius was the bishop of Rome from 6 or 13 March 251 to his martyrdom in June 253.

Cyprian of Carthage, Bishop often called the African Pope, was an important Patristic writer of the early Church . Died in 258

Friday 17 St Robert Bellarmine Bishop and Doctor Robert Bellarmine was an Italian Jesuit and a cardinal of the Catholic Church. He was canonized a saint in 1930 and named Doctor of the Church. He was one of the most important figures in the Counter-Reformation. He is one of the **patron saints of catechists and catechumens**. St Robert Bellarmine entered the Society of Jesus in 1560.



Saturday 18 St Joseph of Cupertino 1603-1663 Joseph of Copertino was an Italian Conventual Franciscan friar who is honored as a Christian mystic and saint. He was said to have been remarkably unclever, some writings use the word Dunce but he was prone to miraculous levitation and intense ecstatic visions. While levitation is an extraordinary sign of holiness, Joseph is also remembered for the ordinary signs he showed. He prayed even in times of inner darkness, and he lived out the Sermon on the Mount. He used his "unique possession"--his free will--to praise God and to serve God's creation.

Plenary Council Report



1. Prayer vigil for Plenary Council.

All Catholic parishes across Australia have been requested to arrange a prayer vigil on the night of Saturday 2 October to pray for the success of the Council which commences the following day.

Our prayer and the prayer of every other parish is that the Holy Spirit will inspire and guide the assembled counsellors, 282 in number, as He inspired and guided the apostles on the great day of Pentecost, an event which turned the apostles who were huddling together in an upper room for "fear of the Jews" into a group of men who went forth to proclaim the gospel and to suffer martyrdom. (Acts 2: 1-11.)

Further details will be published in the later edition of the bulletin. Each parish is also requested to include the Plenary Council in the prayers of the faithful. It is important to emphasise that this our Council and the decisions made will be for our church.

2. "A Church for All - A Guide to the Australian Plenary Council and Beyond"

This booklet is now available. It includes a number of papers by highly regarded commentators. The purpose of is to inform as wide a population as possible, including and beyond Plenary Council members, of the issues identified by the 222,000 submissions as critical to the Plenary Council success. The 222,000 submissions represent more than that number of Catholics as many were joint submissions from schools, convents, discussion groups, student groups and the like. Our own parish lodged 75 individual written submissions and a general meeting of parishioners was attended by 86 people. This is the largest harvest of the sense of the faithful ever to occur in Australia. The expectation is now that the bishops are accordingly to show true apostolic leadership and acknowledge, as Pope Francis does, the Holy Spirit works through all baptised Catholics.

The booklet is released by Garratt Publishing and costs \$14.95. The link is:

https://garratt1.wufoo.com/forms/z3wmazy159m3b3/

3. An evening zoom report

Proposals have been put to the planning commission that for the eight days of the Plenary Council's first assembly a daily evening zoom conference be held that is open to all. The zoom conference would run from 7.30 – 9:00 PM each evening. No response to this request has yet been made. Further information, as it comes to hand, will be made available. It would be an enormous boost to lay participation if a regular conference could be held each night.

4. Debate in Sydney Archdiocese

Archbishop Fisher has addressed his clergy with a prepared speech on his view of the Plenary Council. This was originally intended to be confined to the clergy but it has now become more widely available. The speech has raised some controversy. However I have not yet been able to see it to comment further.

5. The President of the Australian Catholic Bishops conference

Archbishop Coleridge, the Archbishop of Brisbane, who is president of the Australian Catholic Bishops conference, has issued a statement in relation to the Plenary Council. This is published elsewhere in the bulletin.

Chris Hartcher.



Bishops Conference president Archbishop Mark Coleridge signs the decree of convocation

(Archdiocese of Brisbane photo)

by Archbishop Mark Coleridge

There have been times when I wondered if we would ever make it. But after all the delays and changes of plan, we have come at last to the first assembly of the Plenary Council, which has quite a pre-history.

The bishops took the decision to move to a Plenary Council in 2016, but the roots of that decision reach way back to the early 2000s. It was then that the late Archbishop Philip Wilson proposed that the time was right for the Church in Australia to prepare for some kind of national ecclesial event.

This was in the wake of Pope John Paul II's letter at the end of the Year 2000, *Novo Millennio Ineunte*, in which he urged that all the Church's organs of communion be galvanised to prepare for mission in the new millennium. These were also the years when the full force of the sexual abuse crisis was beginning to be felt.

At first, the bishops couldn't agree on whether this was a good idea or this the right time or, if it was, what kind of ecclesial event would be best. So we entered upon a process of discernment which included the Year of Grace in 2012.

This was a kind of retreat for the whole Church in Australia during which, taking our cue from *Novo Millennio Ineunte*, we sought to contemplate the face of Christ in the hope that this would equip us better to make a decision about a national ecclesial event.

The Year of Grace worked better than we expected, but still at its end there was no clear agreement among the bishops about how to move forward.

In 2013, however, two things happened that were game-changers.

The first was the Federal Government's decision to have a Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse; the second was the election of Pope Francis. These two events converged to make the need for some kind of national ecclesial event to chart a course into a future in a time of dramatic change seem more necessary.

Pope Francis then announced two Synods of Bishops, a year apart, both focusing on marriage and the family. The first of these Synods in 2014 included only the presidents of bishops conferences. It was followed by a time of fermentation which prepared for the second Synod in 2015.

I was one of the two Australian bishops elected to attend that Synod. It was, for me, an extraordinary experience, in some ways an awakening.

For the first time – certainly at a Roman Synod – I saw discernment in action. It was messy and unpredictable; at the halfway mark it looked very unlikely that we would achieve anything worth achieving. Yet at the end we did produce something which wasn't the last word, but which was a real contribution to the ongoing journey of the Church.

Part of why that Synod succeeded when failure threatened was the speech on synodality given by Pope Francis in those last days of the gathering – October 17 to be precise. It was an extraordinary speech at the end of a long and often tedious celebration of 50 years of bishops synods since the Second Vatican Council.

It was while listening to the Pope that I had a kind of light-bulb moment. I thought: "Yes, now finally is the time for the Church in Australia to move towards a plenary council." That's what came to me with great clarity and conviction, which seemed to me at the time and still seems to me the work of the Holy Spirit.

I returned to Australia and said as much at the next plenary meeting of the Bishops Conference in November 2015. The Conference decided to set up a committee to make recommendations to the next plenary meeting of the bishops in May 2016. The committee's recommendation was to decide for a plenary council, and that's what the bishops voted for – not unanimously, but by a large majority.

So we set out on a journey with three phases. The first phase was the **preparation**, which involved a great deal of consultation – Listening and Dialogue, as we called it. We were trying to listen to as many voices as possible responding to the basic question, "What do you think God is asking of us in Australia at this time?" This was in the belief that only in listening to each other would we hear the voice of the Holy Spirit.

THE PLENARY COUNCIL

by Archbishop Mark Coleridge (Continued)

The second phase, which is upon us now, is the phrase of **celebration**, by which is meant the first assembly in October this year, the time of fermentation after that leading to the second assembly in the middle of next year.

Then we will gather up the results of the assemblies and send them to Rome for papal approval, which is to ensure that what has come from the Council is in harmony with the doctrine and discipline of the universal Church. This will lead to the promulgation of the decisions and decrees of the Council.

A third phase of the journey will be the **implementation** of those decisions and decrees; and that could take a very long time indeed, as it has with the Second Vatican Council. It may also involve local synods to embed the decisions of the Fifth Plenary Council of Australia in the local Churches.

In *Novo Millennio Ineunte* Pope John Paul II described Vatican II as "the great grace given to the Church in the twentieth century". As I look back on the journey that has brought us to this point and forward to all that lies ahead, I would say that the Plenary Council is the great grace given to the Church in Australia at the dawn of the twenty-first century.

It was always the work of the Holy Spirit – and it will be no less as we move, like Abraham, into the future which God is preparing.





Pope Francis' Prayer Intention for September:

An Environmentally Sustainable Lifestyle. We pray that we all will make courageous choices for a simple and environmentally sustainable lifestyle, rejoicing in our young people who are resolutely committed to this.



The bee is more honored than other animals, not because she labours, but because she labours for others.



May we learn from this little creature.

God gave us eyes to see the beauty in nature, and hearts to see the beauty in each other





Now at

Suite 4.26 Element Building,

200 The Entrance Rd Erina Phone: 02 4302 0899

Email: admin@howas.com.au

48 years on the Central Coast helping with taxation, business, audit and financial matters







CHADS QUALITY

MEATS

WAMBERAL

Near the Post Office 776 The Central Coast Hwy, Wamberal NSW 2260

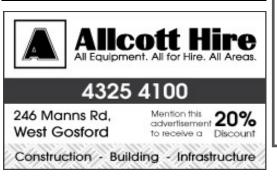
Ph: 43844617



THINKING REAL ESTATE?

Talk to your fellow parishioner,

Chris Lamont 0414 345 600





L'isle de France Terriaal



www.agfg.com.au

Experience is Everything

Tonkin Drysdale Partners has been providing legal advice to the Central Coast for over 60 years.

Parishioner, Paul Quinn is happy to assist with all legal matters.

P (02) 4341 2355 tdplegal.com.au





BRYAN J REID FUNERAL SERVICES

100% Australian Owned & **Family Operated**

Serving all the Central Coast, Sydney and Newcastle areas.

Freecall 1800 032 225 Head Office: 4341 5000

Local Parishioner



Prepay today nothing to pay tomorrow

www.callawayplumbing.com.au

4/168 The Entrance Rd, Erina 4365 2333

simplicityfunerals.com.au

Simplicity Funerals



Specialising in Verandahs & Decks Ray Grace 0411044419



NOW EYE SEA OPTOMETRY, Avoca.

For your eyes tested or new glasses, contacts or

glasses? Call optometrist Elizabeth Mutokoyi (nee Cubis) for expert eye care. Ph 4382 6428

or book online at www.noweyeseaoptometry.com.au. Parking available.

A local family owned business.