



# THE CATHOLIC COMMUNITY OF NORTH HARBOUR

Worshipping Communities of Allambie Heights, Balgowlah, Balgowlah Heights, Brookvale, Clontarf, Manly Vale, North Balgowlah, Seaforth and parts of Beacon Hill and North Manly



**15  
DEC  
2024**  
YEAR C

Under the Pastoral Care of the Augustinians

Catholic Diocese of Broken Bay

Want to receive the bulletin via e-mail? Email [office@nhcatholic.org.au](mailto:office@nhcatholic.org.au)



## 3RD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

John answered them all, saying, "I am baptizing you with water, but one mightier than I is coming." - Lk 3:16a

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD. ©LPi

### 1<sup>ST</sup> READING

Zephaniah 3:14-18

*Shout for joy, sing joyfully.*

### RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Is 12:2-6 R. v.6

*Cry out with joy and gladness:  
for among you is the great  
and Holy One of Israel.*

### 2<sup>ND</sup> READING

Philippians 4:4-7

*Rejoice, the Lord is near.*

### GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Isaiah 61:1 (Lk 4:18)

*Alleluia, alleluia!*

*The Spirit of the Lord is upon me;  
he sent me to bring Good News to the poor.  
Alleluia!*

### GOSPEL

Luke 3:10-18

*John announces the coming of the Messiah.*

## MASS & LITURGY TIMES

### CHURCH OF ST. CECILIA

Wanganella St and White St, Balgowlah 2093

#### MASS:

Wednesday, 9am

Sunday, 9am

#### BAPTISM:

Sunday, 10.30am

1st Sundays of the month (within the 9am Mass)

*Baptism Preparation is required for first baptisms.  
Contact Parish Office for more details. Thank you.*

#### RECONCILIATION:

Saturday, 5.00 to 5.45pm

Church of St. Kieran

#### YOUTH MASS:

2nd Sundays of the month  
during the school term.

#### WEDDING:

Require six months notice and  
include Pre-Marriage Course as  
part of the preparation.

### CHURCH OF ST. KIERAN

2 King Street, Manly Vale 2093

#### MASS:

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday\*, Saturday,  
8.30am

Saturday (Vigil), 5.30pm

Sunday, 7.30am, 9.30am, 5pm

*\* Adoration to the Blessed Sacrament after Mass  
on Fridays.*

#### BAPTISM:

Sunday, 11.30am

1st Sundays of the month (within the 9.30am Mass)

*Baptism Preparation is required for first baptisms.  
Contact Parish Office for more details. Thank you.*

In the spirit of reconciliation the Catholic Community of North Harbour acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of these lands on which we gather.  
We recognise their continuing connection to the lands and waterways and pay our respect to their elders past and present  
and extend that respect to all First Nations people in our community.





# WELCOME TO NORTH HARBOUR

- YOU ARE INVITED
- JOIN US IN OUR VARIED CELEBRATIONS & ACTIVITIES
- CONSIDER SHARING YOUR GIFTS TO US

## GET IN TOUCH



OFFICE@NHCATHOLIC.ORG.AU

2 KING STREET, MANLY VALE 2093 NSW

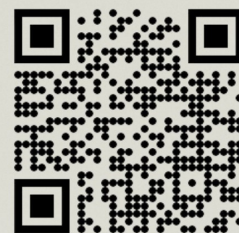


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Scan me!



## WHY DO WE DO THAT? Catholic Life Explained

### Question:

With Christmas fast approaching, can you give me some practical tips to prepare myself and my family that will help us stay grounded in what this holiday is really about? With all the commercialism, it's easy to stray.

### Answer:

Happy times and events bring fond memories and a renewed sense of love and kinship with others. The anticipation is half the joy of the event itself. The coming of the Lord is that kind of event that people have been looking forward to for generations with fervent hope and desire. It gave them strength and courage as they waited for the coming of the Lord. We know that Christmas is rushed. Sales begin in August and carols blare long before the season begins. Everyone laments the commercial aspects of the season, but as Advent begins, do something to help you be more mindful of the Lord's coming. Use an Advent wreath, or enthrone the Bible prominently, or read the readings from the Bible assigned to each day. Postpone the tree and decorations until closer to Christmas. Establish new family rituals, customs and prayers that help remind everyone that we are preparing to celebrate the birth of Jesus. Fasting, daily Mass, a special celebration of reconciliation, reaching out to those alienated from family or society, and visiting the homebound manifest the love of the Christ Child and the Holy Family. Resist the temptation to rush the season. In his own time and in his own way, God will come. Our task is simply to be watchful and ready. ©LPi

## BRINGING HOME THE GOSPEL

When John the Baptist's followers are ready to turn away from their dishonesty and selfishness, he baptises them with water, a cleansing ritual that signifies their wish to repent. But repentance is not enough to bring freedom and salvation. It takes the Holy Spirit and the new life Jesus offers us through his life, death and resurrection.

Repenting, or saying we are sorry, is the first step to freedom and salvation. The second step is to focus on changing our behaviour. If we say we are sorry and have no intention of changing our actions, we can't be forgiven. Even God cannot free us from sin if we insist on holding on to it. Sometimes we are really sorry for our actions but can't muster the courage to change. In that case, we need to ask God for the *desire* to change. Even this small inclination to mend our ways is enough to loosen sin's grip and allow the Holy Spirit to slip in.

The third step is to admit we need help. We humbly acknowledge that we need God's help to love the way God wants us to love. We face our limitations and even our powerlessness, and ask the Spirit to fill us with strength and new life. We trust that with God's help we can overcome our sins or our most compelling bad habits and become the person God calls us to be.

### FAMILY RESPONSE:

Adult family members may want to practice a simple Act of Contrition using the three steps above. *(Say you are sorry. Promise to change. Ask for God's help to do better.)* Say this prayer with your children before bedtime.

### PERSONAL RESPONSE:

What about yourself would you like to change? What keeps you from changing? Are you ready to ask for God's help to change?



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## WEEKLY SOCIAL JUSTICE CHALLENGES

December 15 is the national celebration of the Bill of Rights in the US. The Bill of Rights protects some of the most sacred freedoms, among them freedom of religion. Our Catholic faith calls us to practice our faith and share the Good News of Jesus Christ with others while showing respecting for the faith of others. This week's challenge is to advocate for someone who is denied freedom of religion. This can be done through political action, prayer, or supporting the right to worship God in their particular way.



## PASTORAL CARE FOR THE HOMEBOUND

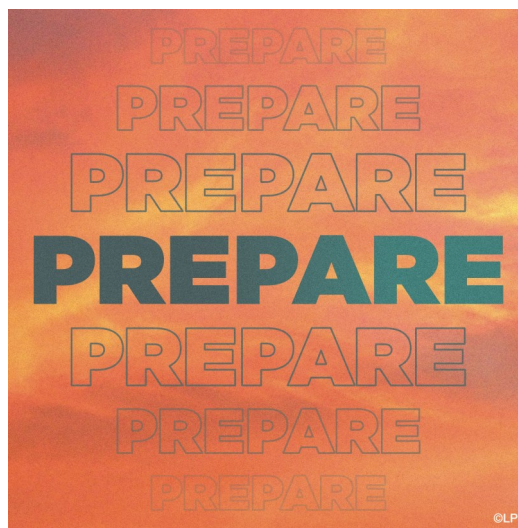
Our clergy and pastoral care ministers bring the sacraments of Eucharist, reconciliation, and anointing of the sick to parishioners who are unable to participate because of illness or aging. For more information and to arrange receiving the sacraments, contact Parish Office.

## CARE FOR CREATION TIPS

*"And the crowds asked him, 'What then should we do?' In reply he said to them, 'Whoever has two coats must share with anyone who has none; and whoever has food must do likewise.'" —Luke 3:10-11*

Are you ever at a loss for what gift to buy a person who has everything? This Christmas season, why not use the money you would spend on them to donate to a charity in their name? Pick a charity or a cause that is important to them and then let them know what you have done. Such a gift will have no negative environmental impact, and it can be your version of sharing a coat or food with someone who has none, rather than giving more to someone who already has plenty. Besides, *not* buying something is the first step in the "refuse, reduce, reuse, recycle" continuum

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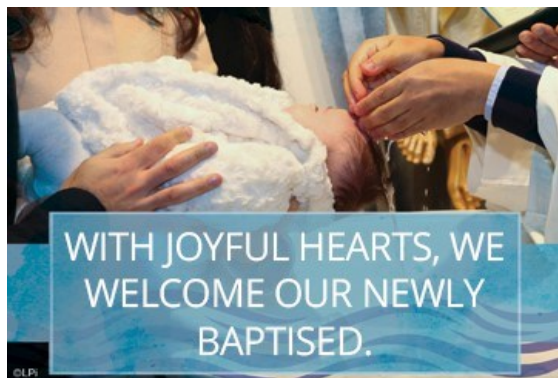


## SICK CALLS AND OTHER URGENT MATTERS

If you need a priest urgently, please call the appropriate number:

**BUSINESS HOURS:**  
PARISH OFFICE—9949 4455

**AFTER HOURS:**  
*(Evenings & Weekends)*  
0490 898 464



Virginia Margaret Phair  
*daughter of Dwyane and Gleydy*

## PRAY FOR THOSE IN OUR COMMUNITY:

### SICK:

Colin Patmore, Joyce Arnold, Cecilia Yeung, Geoff Richardson,  
Yvonne Taylor, Erroll Abbott, Pat Cooper, Greg Hyde

### RECENTLY DECEASED:

Carmel Cooksey, Elio Cavalletto, Maria Jakusic,  
Antonio Coniglio, Peggy Gallagher

### ANNIVERSARIES:

Elizabeth Kirby, Aileen Treston,  
Jack Dellagiacoma

Our community would love to pray for you.

If you have an intention you would like to be included in this bulletin please e-mail  
office@nhcatholic.org.au



*Christmas* MASS TIMES  
@ North Harbour

**CHRISTMAS EVE**  
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 24  
St Kieran's Manly Vale  
5:00PM | 7:30PM  
St Cecilia's Balgowlah  
5:00PM | 7:30PM

**CHRISTMAS DAY**  
WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 25  
St Kieran's Manly Vale  
7:30AM | 9:30AM  
St Cecilia's Balgowlah  
9:00AM

## Christmas Volunteers Needed!

We are calling for volunteers to assist at our Christmas Masses as welcomers, collectors, Communion ministers and more.

If you can help, please put your contact details on the sign up sheets available in our churches. Thank you!



**Parish Christmas Closure Dates**

The office will close at 4:30PM on Friday, December 20. It will reopen at 9AM on Tuesday, January 7, 2025.

**JOIN US** Christmas Eve Family Mass

24 DECEMBER | 5:00PM  
ST KIERAN'S & ST CECILIA'S

Kids can dress as an angel or a shepherd!

Amazing Christmas music!

**PRAYER FOR THE JUBILEE YEAR 2025**

On Sunday, December 29, Pope Francis will open the Holy Door in Rome, officially beginning the Jubilee Year - the Year of Hope.

For resources and the official Jubilee Prayer, please scan the QR code.



Join us for a special

**Farewell Mass for Fr Tu**

Sunday, December 29, 9:30AM  
St Kieran's Church

Fr Tu will be assigned to Vietnam commencing January 2025.



# Thank You!

Thank you for your generosity during this Christmas Appeal. Your kindness makes a difference and will go a long way in spreading joy for our neighbours struggling in our community.

You can still donate by using the envelopes in our churches and placing them in the third collection box or posting them, and by using Manly Vale Conference's QR code or the Tap&Go machine.



Remember hampers are due back this weekend! Just leave them at the back of the church. Once again, thank you for your substantial support.

*Yours in Christ, Manly Vale and Balgowlah Conference of St Vincent de Paul.*

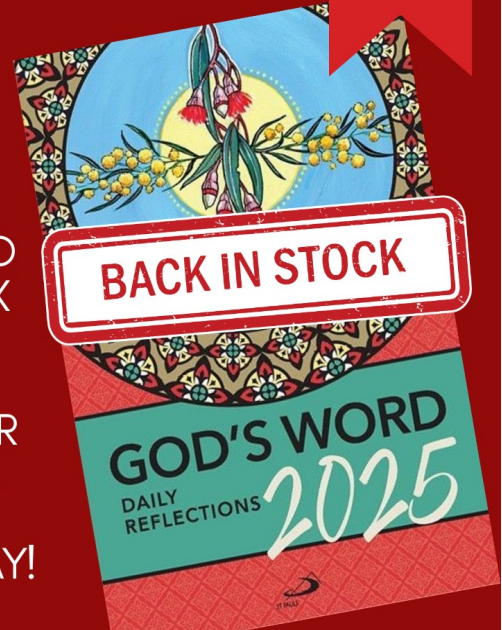


## GOD'S WORD 2025

# \$22

GOD'S WORD 2025 IS BACK IN STOCK!

PICK UP YOUR COPY FROM SK CHURCH FOYER TODAY!



## ADVENT REFLECTION BOOKLETS

JOURNEY THROUGH THE ADVENT SEASON WITH THESE DAILY REFLECTIONS ON GOD'S WORD.

BOOKLETS ARE AVAILABLE IN THE FOYERS OF BOTH CHURCHES.

# \$5



### AUGUSTINIAN FORMATION ASSOCIATION

# Thank You!

Many thanks to everyone who attended our Christmas Dinner on Saturday, 23 November at Wakehurst Golf Club!

We had 100 people attend, and it was a great night. Thanks to your help and generosity, we raised just over \$4,000!

**Special thanks** to those who couldn't attend but still donated or purchased a ticket for an Augustinian. We would also like to thank those who donated raffle prizes, and our two major sponsors, Wilson Family Funerals and Cunninghams Real Estate.

**Congratulations** to all our prize winners! Our First Prize of \$1,000 was won by Rhonda & Paul Daly and Robyn Bulmer went home with the Scratchie Tree.

*Best wishes to all for a very Merry Christmas and a Peaceful & Joyful 2025.*

*God bless from Adriana & all the AFA Committee Members*

Archbishop Anthony Fisher OP invites you to

# CHRISTMAS at the Cathedral

*a festival evening at St Mary's*

## 12<sup>TH</sup> - 25<sup>TH</sup> DEC

Experience the wonder and beauty of this Advent Season as we wait in joyful anticipation for the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ at Christmas.

Discover a festive wonderland with market stalls, delicious food and live performances.

Each evening, marvel at the stunning light projection illuminating the cathedral with the classic story of "A Christmas Carol"

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## All Welcome!



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A Y T E A C H E R E W F T E B  
T J Y J H B A P T I S E M Z N

## WORD SEARCH

What must we do?

### TRY TO FIND THESE WORDS

baptise  
different  
fire  
food  
Messiah  
money  
sandals  
satisfied  
share  
soldiers  
teacher  
water

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### Sharing the Gospel

Today John the Baptist is visiting your church. You ask him, "What should my family do to serve God?" He answers, "If you have two winter coats, give one to someone who doesn't have any. If you have food, share it with someone else." You tell him, "I can give away a coat and a pair of shoes that's too small for me. I can share a can of carrots from our pantry at home."

### Prayer

Help me share what I have with others, Lord.

### Mission

This week I will give money, canned food, and/or clothing to the poor.

©LPi

Promoting a safer *Church*

The care and protection of children, young people and adults involved in Church activities is the responsibility of everyone who participates in the LIFE of the Church.

**SAFEGUARDING**  
is everyone's responsibility



## COLOR

Read the Gospel of the week and color the image.





*Let those labouring under a burden listen to You, kind Jesus.  
Let them not presume to lift their eyes to heaven, just as the sinner  
in the Gospel beat his breast and approached only from a distance.*

Holy Virginity 36, 36  
- St. Augustine of Hippo

## NEXT WEEKEND (22 DECEMBER): 4<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY OF ADVENT - YEAR C

### 1<sup>ST</sup> READING

Micah 5:1-4

*The Lord foretells the coming  
of the Messiah from  
Bethlehem.*

### RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 79:2-3. 15-16. 18-19. R. v.4  
*Lord, make us turn to you; let  
us see your face and we shall  
be saved.*

### 2<sup>ND</sup> READING

Hebrews 10:5-10

*Paul reveals Jesus as the new  
sacrificial offering.*

### GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Luke 1:38

*Alleluia, alleluia!*

*I am the servant of the Lord:  
may his will for me be done.  
Alleluia!*

### GOSPEL

Luke 1:39-45

*Mary visits Elizabeth.*

21 DEC, 5.30PM  
ST KIERAN'S

#### Senior Server

Louise

#### Readers

Ronda  
Val

#### Music

Parish Choir

#### Communion Min

Volunteer needed

#### Powerpoint

Volunteer needed

#### Welcomers

Volunteers needed

22 DEC, 7.30AM  
ST KIERAN'S

#### Senior Server

Anna

#### Readers

Lea  
Tim

#### Music

None

#### Communion Min

Volunteer needed

#### Powerpoint

Volunteer needed

#### Welcomers

Volunteers needed

22 DEC, 9AM  
ST CECILIA'S

#### Senior Server

Antoinette

#### Readers

Cathy

#### Music

Love thy Nbr

#### Communion Min

Volunteer needed

#### Powerpoint

Volunteer needed

#### Welcomers

Volunteers needed

22 DEC, 9.30AM  
ST KIERAN'S

#### Senior Server

Michael

#### Readers

Kaye  
Anne

#### Music

TBD

#### Communion Min

Volunteer needed

#### Powerpoint

Volunteer needed

#### Welcomers

Volunteers needed

22 DEC, 5PM  
ST KIERAN'S

#### Senior Server

Paul

#### Readers

Leanne  
Caroline  
Christine

#### Music

TBD

#### Communion Min

Volunteer needed

#### Powerpoint

Volunteer needed

#### Welcomers

Volunteers needed

## OBSERVANCES FOR THE WEEK OF 15 DECEMBER

**Mon 16 Dec:** Monday of the 3rd Week of Advent

**Tue 17 Dec:** Tuesday of the 3rd Week of Advent

**Wed 18 Dec:** Wednesday of the 3rd Week of Advent

**Thu 19 Dec:** Thursday of the 3rd Week of Advent

**Fri 20 Dec:** Friday of the 3rd Week of Advent

**Sat 21 Dec:** Saturday of the 3rd Week of Advent

## The Catholic Community of North Harbour

Under the Pastoral Care of the Augustinians

Catholic Diocese of Broken Bay [www.bbcatholic.org.au](http://www.bbcatholic.org.au)

### Parish Office

2 King Street, MANLY VALE 2093 NSW AUSTRALIA

P 02 9949 4455 E [office@nhcatholic.org.au](mailto:office@nhcatholic.org.au) W [www.bbcatholic.org.au/northharbour](http://www.bbcatholic.org.au/northharbour)

### Office Hours

9.00am to 4pm (Tuesday to Friday)

### Churches

**Church of St Cecilia** Wanganella St and White St, Balgowlah 2093 NSW

**Church of St Kieran** 2 King St, Manly Vale 2093 NSW

### Parish Staff

**Parish Priest:** Fr Michael Belonio, OSA E [pp@nhcatholic.org.au](mailto:pp@nhcatholic.org.au)

**Asst Priest:** Fr Jumbim Torres, OSA E [jt Torres@nhcatholic.org.au](mailto:jt Torres@nhcatholic.org.au)

**Asst Priest:** Fr John Zhang E [jzhang@nhcatholic.org.au](mailto:jzhang@nhcatholic.org.au)

**Asst Priest:** Fr Van Tu Nguyen, OSA E [tnguyen@nhcatholic.org.au](mailto:tnguyen@nhcatholic.org.au)

**Parish Manager:** Jacky Worthington E [manager@nhcatholic.org.au](mailto:manager@nhcatholic.org.au) (Mon, Wed, Thu)

**Parish Secretary:** Jane Filacuridi E [office@nhcatholic.org.au](mailto:office@nhcatholic.org.au) (Tue, Wed)

**Parish Secretary:** Anne Ross E [office@nhcatholic.org.au](mailto:office@nhcatholic.org.au) (Thu, Fri)

**Catechists, Family & Sacramental Ministries:** Ursula Halloway M 0450 101 767 E [families@nhcatholic.org.au](mailto:families@nhcatholic.org.au)

**Media & Communications:** Sophie Taylor E [comms@nhcatholic.org.au](mailto:comms@nhcatholic.org.au)

**Music Ministry:** Marianne Kaw-Deveza E [music@nhcatholic.org.au](mailto:music@nhcatholic.org.au)

**Youth & Children's Choir:** Victoria Merillo E [choir@nhcatholic.org.au](mailto:choir@nhcatholic.org.au)

### Resident Priests

Fr Minh-Tan Hoang, OSA E [minhtanhoang@yahoo.com.au](mailto:minhtanhoang@yahoo.com.au)

Fr Peter Jones, OSA E [peter.jones@osa.org.au](mailto:peter.jones@osa.org.au) (Prior Provincial)

Fr Paul Maloney, OSA E [paulmal@bigpond.com](mailto:paulmal@bigpond.com) (Retired)

Fr Abel van der Veer, OSA E [vabelvanderveer@gmail.com](mailto:vabelvanderveer@gmail.com) (Retired)

Fr Senan Ward, OSA E [senanward@bigpond.com](mailto:senanward@bigpond.com) (Chaplain, St. Augustine's College, Brookvale)



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**THE WIZARD of Oz**

Willoughby 6 Jan - 10 Jan  
Manly Vale 13 Jan - 17 Jan  
St Thomas Church St Kieran's Church

Musical Ages 6-13 Schedule 9am-3pm

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**St Cecilia's Catholic Primary School**

Principal: Ms Louise O'Brien

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**St Kieran's Catholic Primary School**

Principal: Ms Anna Marsella

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Co-educational pathway  
For St Paul's Catholic College, Manly

**PLEASE CONSIDER ONLINE GIVING**

Our parish is grateful for your continued support.  
Thank you!

**Please DONATE**

**North Harbour PARISH**

**Donate Here**

You can now donate for North Harbour Parish Clergy and Parish Funds AND to support Pastoral Works Broken Bay (PWBB) Appeals, using the Parish Giving Broken Bay App. Thank you for your generosity.

To support our Parish and our Diocese, please scan the QR code, download the Parish Giving Broken Bay App, sign in and become a regular donor. Alternatively, visit: [brokenbay.goodgiving.com.au/home/brokenbay](http://brokenbay.goodgiving.com.au/home/brokenbay)