

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



**10
DEC
2023**
YEAR B

Under the Pastoral Care of the Augustinians

Catholic Diocese of Broken Bay

Want to receive the bulletin via e-mail? Email parishoffice@northharbourcatholic.org.au

2ND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

*"One mightier than I
is coming after me."
- Mk 1:7a*

FIRST READING Isaiah 40:1-5. 9-11 *In the desert make ready the way of the Lord.* | **RESPONSORIAL PSALM** Ps 84:9-14. R. v.8 *Lord, let us see your kindness, and grant us your salvation.* | **SECOND READING** 2 Peter 3:8-14 *The Lord shows great patience.* | **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION** Luke 3:4. 6 *Alleluia, alleluia! Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths: all people shall see the salvation of God. Alleluia!* | **GOSPEL READING** Mark 1:1-8 *John the Baptist proclaims the coming of the Messiah.*

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

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, 6pm

*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



WWW.BBCATHOLIC.ORG.AU/NORTHHARBOUR

2 KING STREET, MANLY VALE 2093 NSW

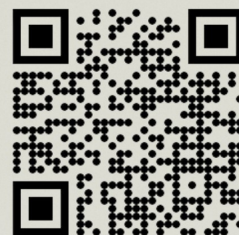


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Scan me!



WHY DO WE DO THAT? Catholic Life Explained

Question:

The Bible says that Jesus condemned gambling, but I notice that so many parishes have them at festivals and other events. What's correct?

Answer:

Although Jesus speaks of our relationship with material wealth and the very human struggle with greed, the gospels do not include any specific instructions related to gambling. At the same time, the Church is very sensitive to the needs of those who might struggle with an addiction to gambling, and pastoral care should always be offered to those who struggle with this reality in their life.

While it is true that many parish or school communities include gambling or games of chance in festivals and fundraisers (e.g. bingo, roulette, ring tossing, dunking booths, etc.), there is nothing inherently wrong these sorts of events, given they are played fairly and within the limits of reason are not morally objectionable. As the Catechism of the Catholic Church reminds us: "Games of chance (card games, etc.) or wagers are not in themselves contrary to justice. They become morally unacceptable when they deprive someone of what is necessary to provide for his needs and those of others" (no. 2413).

As in all things, moderation and a sense of healthy limits should be applied to gambling and games of chance. For those who find themselves living with addiction to gambling, help is available in various 12-step and addiction recovery programs.

BRINGING HOME THE GOSPEL

John the Baptist tells his followers, "I have baptized you with water, but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit" (v. 8). The "he" of course is Jesus, and the distinction John makes concerning baptism is important.

John's followers have repented and turned away from sin. He uses water to symbolize a cleansing from sin and a new beginning. Jesus' baptism presupposes the turning away from sin. His baptism not only marks the end of sin, but also the beginning of a new life, a life in pursuit of love and truth. When we are baptized we receive the Holy Spirit, who not only gives us new life but also blesses us with the gift we need to enter into that life.

Jesus' baptism points us in a new direction and inaugurates us into a new way of living. The gift of the Holy Spirit is an invitation to action. It is not enough to just repent from evil—we must also become actively involved in the pursuit of good. This is the baptism we received when the water that symbolizes both death and new beginning was poured over our heads.

Sometime this week take out the pictures of your child's baptism. Remind them that on that day they received Jesus' Spirit, and were given the special help they would need to be good and accomplish great things. Let them know that with the special gifts they received in baptism they could help to make the world a better place. Talk about some practical ways they could make a difference in someone else's life, and then schedule some time during your busy week to help them live out their baptismal gift.

FAMILY RESPONSE:

Decide as a family on a kind act you can do for someone. Set the date you will accomplish the task on the calendar.

PERSONAL RESPONSE:

What gifts do you need to continue to give yourself unselfishly to your family? Write a prayer asking God for this gift.

**FOLLOW
HIM AND
BE TRULY
FREE**

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WEEKLY SOCIAL JUSTICE CHALLENGES

The Responsorial Song for Sunday sings of justice and peace kissing when the Messiah comes. The psalmist proclaims, "Justice shall walk before him..." So many Scripture readings remind us that one of the best paths to peace comes through achieving justice—making sure everyone has what he or she needs to live a life of dignity and hope. The root of conflict can usually be found when people are denied their basic human rights. Your challenge this week is to discuss as a family or household what you think the connection is between justice and peace. Then choose one act of justice which you can do to bring more peace to our world. What is God calling you to do this week—in your immediate family, in your parish or school, in your community, or even in the world itself—to help someone secure the human rights they have been denied? And remember that we Catholics believe they deserve these rights, not by earning them or buying them or even achieving them, but because they are part of the human family, just like you and me, created in God's own image and likeness.



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

As you buy gifts and prepare to wrap presents for Christmas this year, think about the impact of wrapping paper on the environment. Not only are trees cut down to make it, but it usually can't be recycled and ends up in the trash instead. Landfills in the United States are filling up at almost two a day! Choose an alternative this year: old newspapers or magazines, other re-used paper, cloth napkins, etc.



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SICK CALLS

AND OTHER URGENT MATTERS

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

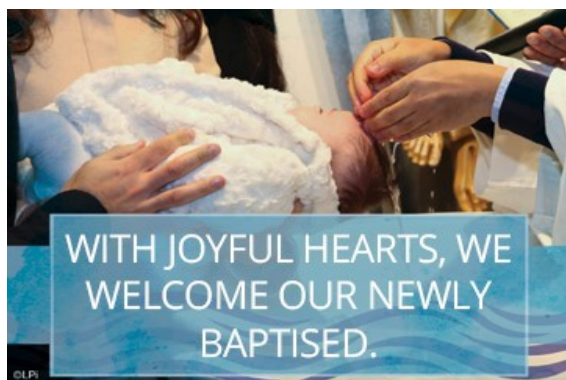
BUSINESS HOURS:

PARISH OFFICE—9949 4455

AFTER HOURS:

(Evenings & Weekends)

0490 898 464



BAPTISM PREPARATION COURSES 2024

11AM—12.30PM

ST KIERAN'S CHURCH

FEBRUARY 4, APRIL 7

MAY 5, JUNE 2

JULY 7, AUGUST 4

OCTOBER 6, NOVEMBER 3

PRAY FOR THOSE IN OUR COMMUNITY:

SICK:

Paul Pearson, Fred Jackson, Greg Hyde, Yvonne Taylor

RECENTLY DECEASED:

Serafin Bermudez, Janet Mary Cave, Audrey Murphy,
Tony Murphy (Mackey),
Patricia Anne Thackeray, Dr John Connolly

ANNIVERSARIES:

Elizabeth Kirby, Jack Dellagiacoma, John Ardill, Peter McCarthy, John Smellie,
Maria Polito, Maria Demasi, Cecile Hakvoort

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
parishoffice@northharbourcatholic.org.au

Christmas Mass Times @ North Harbour

Join us and let us celebrate Christmas together

4TH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

(Saturday, 23 December)

ST. KIERAN'S CHURCH, Manly Vale

Reconciliation: 5pm | Vigil Mass: 5.30pm

(Sunday, 24 December)

ST. KIERAN'S CHURCH, Manly Vale

7.30am 9.30am

ST. CECILIA'S CHURCH, Balgowlah

9am

CHRISTMAS EVE

(Sunday 24 December)

ST. KIERAN'S CHURCH, Manly Vale

5.30pm 8pm

ST. CECILIA'S CHURCH, Balgowlah

5pm 7.30pm

CHRISTMAS DAY

(Monday 25 December)

ST. KIERAN'S CHURCH, Manly Vale

7.30am 9.30am

ST. CECILIA'S CHURCH, Balgowlah

9am

PASTORAL NOTE: The Sunday obligation requires attending mass on a Sunday or Saturday evening (Vigil), while the Christmas obligation requires attending mass on Christmas Day or on a Sunday afternoon, or later. Attending one mass on Christmas Day will not fulfill both obligations. If someone attends a mass to fulfill the Christmas obligation, they would have to attend mass again on Sunday to fulfill the Sunday obligation. Thank you.

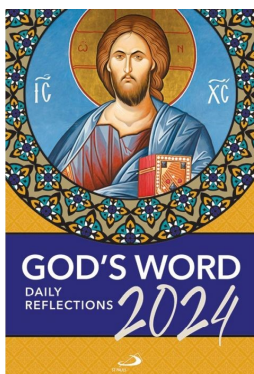


TAP & GO MACHINES

We have additional Donation Point machine in both churches. With a tap of your credit card you can donate to support the parish. Your donation is greatly appreciated.

HOW TO DONATE:

1. Select one of the pre-set amounts.
2. You will then be prompted to tap, insert or swipe your card.
3. Choose a method you wish to receive a receipt if needed.



Grab a copy of **GOD'S WORD 2024**
It brings you:

- Scripture readings of the day
- Inspiring reflections by eminent Australian writers
- Liturgical information for the day
- Space to note down important events

Available at the piety stall for \$20 each.

Children's Liturgy of the Word

10TH DECEMBER

ST CECILIA'S, BALGOWLAH, 9AM
ST KIERAN'S, MANLY VALE, 9.30AM

Join us for prayer
and worship.

EVERY FRIDAY
AFTER THE
8.30AM MASS
@ ST KIERAN'S
CHURCH

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament.

Come and spend time with the Lord in the quiet of His presence. All are welcome to participate in this time of adoration and contemplation.



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

We are looking for volunteers to help us in both churches for our Christmas Masses. If interested, sign-up sheets are available in the foyer. We are in need of the following:

- Readers
- Communion Ministers
- Powerpoint Ministers
- Welcomers & Collectors
- Angels and shepherds for the Christmas Eve (24 December) Nativity Play (5pm St Cecilia's and 5.30pm St Kieran's)

St Cecilia's Christmas Eve Service



For unto us
a child is born!



We are looking for children to be shepherds, angels and read Prayer of the Faithful. And for a baby Jesus!

Please scan the QR code for further information and to sign up.

**Angels, shepherds,
readers and
baby Jesus wanted**
5.00pm Sunday
24 December
St Cecilia's Church
Balgowlah

Liturgical Ministries

We are looking for volunteers who would like to be involved in the following Ministries:

MUSIC MINISTRY
EUCCHARISTIC MINISTER
WELCOMER AT MASS
SENIOR SERVER
READER AT MASS
ALTAR LINEN CARE
COLLECTORS AT MASS
POWERPOINT MINISTER



TRAINING WILL BE PROVIDED.

Sign-up forms are available in the foyer. Place the completed forms in the box provided. Thank you.

Vinnies Christmas Appeal

St Vincent de Paul Society
good works

You may scan the QR code if you wish to donate online. Vinnies donation envelopes are available in the foyer. Thank you to those who have generously donated to the appeal.



THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

BLESSING OF THE CHRIST CHILD

December 16 & 17

Bring the infant Jesus figurine from your home nativity set to be blessed at the conclusion of each Mass next weekend.



CATHOLIC COMMUNITY OF
NORTH HARBOUR

The Blessing of the Baby Jesus (*Bambinelli*) is a tradition which began in Rome. Each year on the Third Sunday of Advent (*Gaudete Sunday*), the Holy Father invites children to bring the Baby Jesus (*Bambinelli*) from their family Nativity scene to Mass for a blessing. This wonderful tradition has also been observed by some parishes all over the world.

We also encourage parents and grandparents to join with their grandchildren in this simple but beautiful tradition. Don't forget to bring the *Bambinelli*!

After the blessing the children are invited to wrap up their baby Jesus and to place him under their Christmas Tree. On Christmas morning the *Bambinelli* is the first Christmas gift to be unwrapped and placed in the family crib.

Blessings to you all for *Bambinelli* Sunday!

PRAY WITH US
FOR MORNING PRAYER
ON EACH OF THE THURSDAYS
IN ADVENT AT 8.15 AM
FOLLOWED BY MASS
AT 8.30AM

Awaken your soul
and start your day
with prayer



PREPARE FOR CHRISTMAS BY PRAYING WITH US THE ADVENT OFFICE.

The psalms, hymns and readings will be available as an overhead, and the pattern of prayers will be led by members of the Augustinian Community in a manner that can be easily followed.



GAZA CRISIS APPEAL

Help provide urgent humanitarian assistance to the people affected by the conflict.



DONATE NOW
www.caritas.org.au/gaza
1800 024 413



Dear Parishioners,

Over the past 6 months, the North Harbour Catholic Parish Pastoral Council (PPC) has been formulating a 5-year plan for our Parish to continue to improve and meet the current, emerging and future needs of our faith community.

Any plan for our community wouldn't be complete without the feedback, input and consultation with the people who make up this community - this, of course, is you! As those within our Parish who attend and contribute to the celebration of the Eucharist, your feedback is essential. The PPC invites you to contribute to the finalisation of the 2024 - 2028 North Harbour Mission, Vision, Values and Goals.

Please take the time to provide your feedback, input and suggestions on the QR code provided. Paper forms are also available in the foyer.

Steve Rush
PPC Co-Chair

MISSION:

Encountering Christ in Scripture, Sacraments and Community

VISION:

Flourishing community in faith

VALUES:

Compassion, Faith, Friendship, Service, Witness, Celebration

LONG-TERM GOALS:

- Celebration of the sacraments is engaging and life-giving
- We are a welcoming and vibrant community, embracing diversity
- We nourish spirituality and nurture faith, meeting people where they are
- We are empowered to act for justice and with compassion



Sharing the Gospel

Imagine John the Baptist is preaching today. He is preaching not only to you, but to people watching television at home. You and your family are down by the river having a picnic. John says, "Tell God that you are sorry for your bad behaviour." John warns, "Stop sinning. Follow God's commandments." You say: "Count me as a child of God. Wash me with the waters of God's baptism."

Prayer

Lord, I repent of my sins. Bathe me with your waters of forgiveness.

Mission

Every day I will tell God that I am sorry for my sins.

©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.





Lord, we are Your little flock; we belong to You. Spread Your wings that we may take refuge under them. Be our glory, let us be loved for Your sake, and let Your word be feared in our midst.

Confessions 10, 36
- St. Augustine of Hippo

NEXT WEEKEND (17 DECEMBER): 3RD SUNDAY OF ADVENT, YEAR B

1st Reading

Isaiah 61:1-2. 10-11
Isaiah proclaims the goodness of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm

Lk 1:46-50. 53-54. R. Is 61:10
My soul rejoices in my God.

2nd Reading

1 Thessalonians 5:16-2
Rejoice and pray always.

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

John 1:6-8. 19-28
The priests and Levites question John's identity.

16 DEC, 5.30PM
ST KIERAN'S

Senior Server
Stephen

Reader 1
Val

Reader 2
Margaret, Phil

Music
Filipino Choir

Powerpoint
Volunteer needed

Welcomers
Volunteers needed

17 DEC, 7.30AM
ST KIERAN'S

Senior Server
Jo

Reader 1
Andrew

Reader 2
Judith/Jenny

Music
None

Powerpoint
Volunteer needed

Welcomers
Volunteers needed

17 DEC, 9AM
ST CECILIA'S

Senior Server
Ian

Reader 1
Phil

Reader 2
Sandra

Music
Conmen

Powerpoint
Volunteer needed

Welcomers
Gai

17 DEC, 9.30AM
ST KIERAN'S

Senior Server
Michael

Reader 1
Cathie

Reader 2
Dale

Music
Joshua 24:15

Powerpoint
Volunteer needed

Welcomers
Volunteers needed

17 DEC, 6PM
ST KIERAN'S

Senior Server
Marisa

Reader 1
Jo

Reader 2
Rodney

Music
Sam

Powerpoint
Volunteer needed

Welcomers
Volunteers needed

OBSERVANCES FOR THE WEEK OF 10 DECEMBER

Mon 11 Dec: Monday of the 2nd Week of Advent

Tue 12 Dec: Tuesday of the 2nd Week of Advent

Wed 13 Dec: St Lucy, virgin and martyr

Thu 14 Dec: St John of the Cross, priest and Doctor of the Church

Fri 15 Dec: Friday of the 2nd week of Advent

Sat 16 Dec: Saturday of the 2nd 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

Parish Office 2 King Street, MANLY VALE 2093 NSW AUSTRALIA

P 02 9949 4455 **E** parishoffice@northharbourcatholic.org.au **W** www.bbcatholic.org.au/northharbour

Office Hours 9.00am to 4pm (Monday to Friday)

Parish 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** parishpriest@northharbourcatholic.org.au

Asst Priest: Fr Paul Maloney, OSA **E** paul.maloney@osa.org.au

Asst Priest: Fr Jumbim Torres, OSA **E** jumbim.torres@osa.org.au

Asst Priest: Fr John Zhang **E** john.zhang@northharbourcatholic.org.au

Parish Manager: Jacky Worthington **E** parishmanager@northharbourcatholic.org.au (Mon, Wed, Thu)

Parish Secretary: Jane Filacuridi **E** parishoffice@northharbourcatholic.org.au (Mon, Tue, Wed)

Parish Secretary: Anne Ross **E** parishoffice@northharbourcatholic.org.au (Thu, Fri)

Sacramental Coordinator: Janette Davidson **M** 0450 101 767 **E** sacraments@northharbourcatholic.org.au

Catechists (CCD) Coordinator: Ursula Halloway **E** catechist@northharbourcatholic.org.au

Music Ministry Coordinator: Marianne Kaw-Deveza **E** musicministry@northharbourcatholic.org.au

Augustinian Brother: Van Tu Nguyen, OSA **E** tunguyen@osa.org.au

Resident Priests Fr Hoang-Minh Tan, OSA **E** minhtanhoang@yahoo.com.au

Fr Peter Jones, OSA **E** peter.jones@osa.org.au (Prior Provincial)

Fr Abel van der Veer, OSA **E** vabelvanderveer@gmail.com (Retired)

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

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WATERMARX GRAPHICS

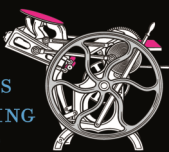
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St Cecilia's Catholic
Primary School



Principal: Ms Louise O'Brien

59 Seaview St, Balgowlah
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St Kieran's Catholic
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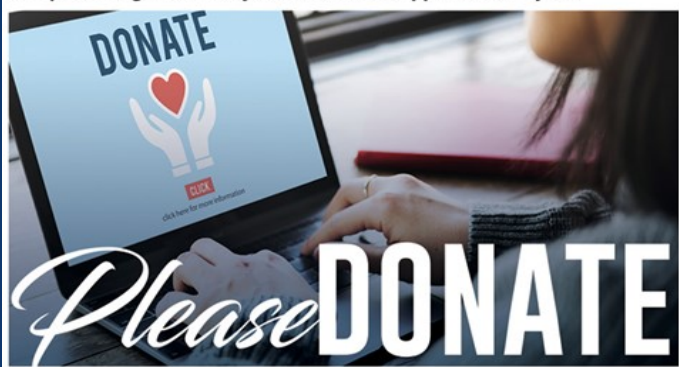
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For St Paul's Catholic College, Manly

PLEASE CONSIDER ONLINE GIVING

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



Support the Parish by signing up to contribute online.
Setting up a one-time or recurring donation is quick and easy.

Visit: www.bbcatholic.org.au/north-harbour/giving
or thru bank transfer:

FIRST COLLECTION: For the Augustinian Clergy (Priory)

Account Name: St. Kieran's Priory
Bank: CBA BSB: 062 784 Account Number: 100 005 010

SECOND COLLECITON: For the Parish

Account Name: Catholic Community of North Harbour
Bank: CBA BSB: 062 784 Account Number: 100 007 957

If you like to contribute by credit card, please email Jacky,
parishmanager@northharbourcatholic.org.au.
Thank you so much for your support!