

# The Catholic Community of North Harbour



IN THE CARE OF THE AUGUSTINIANS



Cnr White & Wanganella Sts

2 King Street

Parish Priest: Fr Dave Austin OSA

Parish Office: 9949 4455

parishoffice@northharbourcatholic.org.au

<https://www.bbcatholic.org.au/northharbour>



Second Sunday of  
ADVENT

Year A - 4 Dec 2022

## PASTOR'S PERSPECTIVE – Peacefully Advent! - 'Prepare the Way!'

**Dear Friends,**



As the Season of Advent gradually unfolds, the central characters emerge – this week, John the Baptist. The liturgical seasons, with their different colours and moods, are meant to form us; we are now in Cycle A with Matthew's Gospel. Last Sunday, Jesus' message was, 'Stay awake!' Today, John the Baptist has a similar call, 'Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is close at hand!' God's Kingdom happens when we are alert and prepared to change – the call to us, as individuals and as a community, to embrace life-change and forgiveness.

Spiritual writer Richard Rohr describes John as, 'the strangest combination of conviction and humility, morality and mysticism, radical prophecy and living in the present' (Preparing for Christmas p 24). Thus John is a good fit for this Advent time as we seek to reawaken our vision, our dreams for the future. As the bridge between Old and New Testaments, John's was the last voice to be heard before Jesus - a bit like the support band that comes on before the main artist – to loosen us up, get us in the mood.

His message was not universally popular, especially when he took the Pharisees and Scribes to task when they came for baptism, but his focus was on 'one who comes after me' – preparing hearts and minds for Jesus. There's a gentle reminder here to us to connect our faith practices and convictions because it's so easy to lose sight of the purpose of our religious acts or behaviour. Even coming to Mass can become our spiritual Panadol with little personal change, little impact on the harmony between our words and actions.

In no sense is Advent meant to cramp our style – quite the opposite. Recall Jesus' words in the discourse on the Good Shepherd which express beautifully and simply his deep desire for our wholeness: 'I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly' (John 10:10). Advent and Christmas invite us to connect with the roots of our being lest in our weakness and sinfulness we lose ourselves. As one of us, Jesus defines the best in our humanness once and for all.

During Advent, we are encouraged to grasp the opportunity to experience the comfort and forgiveness of Reconciliation, both as individuals and as a community. We are invited to gather as a Parish for the Communal Sacrament of Reconciliation on Thursday evening 15 December – always a special time on our journey to Christmas as we embrace the Baptist's call to repent!

Now for an unusual insight (from an unknown writer) into the Season and the witness of the Baptist!! John is no comedian but his message reminds us that we need a sense of humour because humour is rooted in humility and recognises that there is so much we do not know and cannot control. Humour helps us smile when we fail - when our humanity gets the better of us. Humility and humour help us appreciate the efforts and failings of others and grow to care for them. There is nothing grim or glum about Advent. It is founded on Joy as we allow the Lord to stretch the cycle of our lives into a spiral and make ourselves ready to meet him.

In today's Second Reading from Romans, St Paul has very sound advice -  
**'Treat each other in the same friendly way as Christ treated you'.**

**SPECIAL FAREWELL MASS and MORNING TEA after 9.30am Mass**

**ANointing MASS THIS WEDNESDAY 7 DECEMBER 10AM AT ST KIERAN'S**

There will be no homily this weekend but please check the Parish website or Facebook page for other items of interest: <https://www.facebook.com/NorthHarbourCatholic>



**VINNIES CHRISTMAS VINNIES CHRISTMAS APPEAL** – Thank you to all who have made generous donations to Vinnies Christmas Appeal and have prepared hampers. The response has been overwhelming. If you still wish to donate funds, please use the envelopes which are available in our churches. Hampers need to be returned by Sunday 11 December.



**St Vincent de Paul Society**  
NSW  
*good works*

**CALLING ALL WILLING AND CREATIVE HANDS** **\*\*CHRISTMAS BANNERS** in the Church sanctuary on Fri 23 or Sat 24 Dec. You will be shown how it's done and no climbing required.  
**\*\*** Two or three people (a great opportunity for a family) to set up the **CHRISTMAS CRIB** and **CHRISTMAS TREE** in the Church on Fri 16 or Sat 17 Dec. Guiding hands to help show where everything is and to be set up.  
**\*\*** Parent Helpers for **CHILDREN'S NATIVITY PLAY** at 5.30pm for Christmas Eve Mass (No rehearsal needed) **PLEASE LET THE OFFICE KNOW AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.**

# You're invited To CHRISTMAS

## DAY LUNCH

St Mary's Catholic Church  
Enter from Denison St, School Entrance  
11am - 1pm

This year we will be providing a  
Take Away Picnic Lunch and gift.

There will be some tables set up under  
the big tree if you wish to enjoy your  
Picnic with some other guests.

It's been a tough year for many, so no matter what your  
circumstance, you are **always** welcome to come along!!

- ✓ COVID-19 Safe
- ✓ Free
- ✓ Special Gift Bag for all guests
- ✓ Family friendly
- ✓ Non-alcoholic
- ✓ Friendly Community

Hosted by  
Manly Freshwater Parish  
Tel: 9977 5822



Thank you for supporting this year's Catholic Mission Parish Appeal. On behalf of Catholic Mission, I would be grateful if you could please thank all the parishioners who contributed to the appeal. Their generosity has provided support to families from disadvantaged backgrounds through programs like the Deberety Goat Rearing Centre in Ethiopia. This Centre will provide nutritious milk for families in most need, to help reverse and prevent health problems like malnutrition.

### WORLD YOUTH DAY 2023

The Augustinians in Australia invite young adults (aged 18 to 35) to join their pilgrimage group to World Youth Day in Lisbon, Portugal in mid-2023. The group will visit significant Augustinian sites in Italy and then join the Augustinian Youth Encounter in Lisbon, followed by World Youth Day. Dates are 19 July to 7 August. Printed information is available in the foyer of each church. Registration deadline is in December. Please contact Fr Dave asap if you are interested.



### WHAT'S ON in OUR PARISH

- Dec 4:** Farewell Morning Tea for Frs Dave, John & Jepsen
- Dec 7:** Anointing mass 10am @ SK followed by Morning Tea  
Birth of Jesus with Fr John parish centre
- Dec 15** 7.30pm COMMUNAL RECONCILIATION @ SK

### From St Augustine

*O happy home! O land of safety! May I dwell there in security! From there I shall not seek to depart, for no safer place shall I find.*

Sermon 217, 2





**Readings for this week:** **Isaiah 11:1-10** **Romans 15:4-9** **Matthew 3:1-12**  
**Response:** *Justice shall flourish in his time, and fullness of peace for ever*  
**Readings for next week:** **Isaiah 35:1-6, 10** **St James 5:7-10** **Matthew 11:2-11**  
**NEXT WEEK'S READERS Roster Week 2**  
**SK 5.30pm** Bob, John H **7.30am** Tim, Lea **9.30am** Terry K, Brian G **6pm** Amelia, Catherine  
**SC 9.00am** Isabella, Stephanie, Maria Res: Sam

Donations to **Pastoral Works Broken Bay** are distributed to five charities that directly support the people in our Diocese. The charities receive the funds as needed

All donations over \$2 are tax deductible

				
Hospital Chaplaincy & Pastoral Care Practitioners	Confraternity of Christian Doctrine	St Lucy's School	St Edmund's College	Ephpheta Centre

NOVEMBER APPEAL-THIS WEEKEND



Scan the QR code

Envelopes are in the churches, or you can donate online:

<https://www.bbcatholic.org.au/donate/pastoral-works-broken-bay>



**THE STORY OF JESUS' BIRTH THROUGH THE EYES OF MARY**

FR. JOHN WILL LEAD A READING OF LUKE'S INFANCY NARRATIVE

**THIS WEDNESDAY 7<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER AT 7.30pm**

IN ST. KIERAN'S HALL.

BRING YOUR BIBLE.

(Supplied if you don't have one.)

ALL WELCOME.

**WORLD DAY OF PRAYER 2023 DATE CLAIMER—92 DAYS TO GO (1 DEC)**

The Catholic Community of North Harbour will be hosting this event in March 2023. The service will be held at St Kieran's Church at 10am on Friday March 3 2023 followed by morning tea in the parish centre.

The event has been prepared by the people of Taiwan this time. Last year the service was held at St Matthews at Manly and the Uniting Church at Balgowlah the year before. Parishioners from North harbour took part in both these events.

The service was last hosted by North Harbour about 5 years ago.

Please keep the day in mind and in your prayers and invite others.

Visit the website for more information:

<https://www.worlddayofprayeraustralia.org>

or

<https://worlddayofprayer.net>

Theme for 2023: Ephesians 1:15-19



angels and shepherds needed!

**Christmas Eve Nativity Play**

5:30pm St Cecilia's & 6:00pm St Kieran's

NO REHEARSALS REQUIRED



**Rest in Peace**



<b>ANNIVERSARIES</b>	
Cedric & Ida Connolly	
<b>RECENTLY DECEASED</b>	
Liz Rush	Todd Walsh
Bob McEwan	Franciszek Smigowski
Bill Greentree	

<b>For those with ILLNESS</b>			
Zara Sapounas	Michael Lennon	Daniella Takchi	Mark Moscrop
Yvonne Taylor	Jenny B	Muireann Casey	Vince Jewell
Ed Burchard	Joan Killick	Simone Young	Yvonne Richardson
Christopher Newman	Maria Kogovsek	Yvonne Hickey	Henryk Gawecki
Richard Paul Reynolds	Margaret Appleby	Joan Kelly	Peter Van de Velde
Chloe Zarb	Andrew Scotland	Bridie Lennon	Jan Van de Velde
Shirley Barker	Angie Olic		

**CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES**

Mass and Reconciliation times for Christmas are printed below. Please note that there will be no Evening Mass on Christmas Day.

**Reconciliation (First Rite) – Saturday 24 December**

- \* St Kieran's – 4-5 pm - St Cecilia's – 4-5 pm

**Christmas Mass Times – Saturday 24 December**

- \* St Kieran's – 6.00pm (Family Mass) - 8.00pm – Midnight
- \* St Cecilia's – 5.30pm - 7.30pm

**Christmas Mass Times – Sunday 25 December**

- \* St Kieran's – 7.30am - 9.30am - No 6.00pm Mass
- \* St Cecilia's – 9.00am



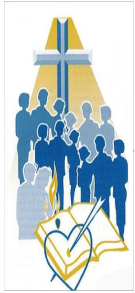
**COMMUNAL RITE OF RECONCILIATION – Thurs 15 December at 7.30pm**

A special opportunity to prepare for Christmas is the Communal Rite of Reconciliation (Second Rite) which will be celebrated in **St Kieran's Church on Thursday 15 December at 7.30pm**. We need to come together as a Faith Community to reflect on our shared weakness and sinfulness and to seek forgiveness.

**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 and weekends) – 0490 898 464

**CATHOLIC COMMUNITY OF NORTH HARBOUR**

<p><b>REGULAR PARISH MASS TIMES</b></p> <p><b>St Cecilia's, Balgowlah</b></p> <p><b>SUNDAY</b> 9.00AM</p> <p><b>WEDNESDAY</b> 9.00AM</p> <p><b>St Kieran's, Manly Vale</b></p> <p><b>SATURDAY VIGIL</b> 5.30pm</p> <p><b>SUNDAY</b> 7.30am, 9.30am &amp; 6.00pm</p> <p><b>Weekdays</b> 8.30am except Wednesdays</p> <p><b>St Augustine's Chapel, Brookvale</b></p> <p>Wednesdays 8.10am during term time</p> <p><b>RECONCILIATION</b></p> <p><b>St Kieran</b> 5 – 5.45pm Saturday or by appointment.</p>	<p><b>BAPTISMS</b></p> <p><b>St Cecilia</b> 10.30am Sun. by appointment</p> <p>9.00am Mass on 1st Sundays of the month</p> <p><b>St Kieran</b> 11.30am Sun. by appointment</p> <p>9.30am Mass on 1st Sundays of the month</p> <p>Baptism preparation is required for 1st baptisms.</p> <p>Contact parish office 9949 4455</p> <p><b>MARRIAGES</b></p> <p>Require 6 months notice and include Pre-marriage Course as part of the preparation</p>
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| Fr David Austin OSA Parish Priest 0419 265 317               | Jacky Worthington Parish Manager 9949 4455            |
| Fr Paul Maloney OSA Assistant Priest and Prior 0439 595 723  | Marianne Deveza Music Co-ordinator 9949 4455          |
| Fr John Sullivan OSA Assistant Priest and Prior 0423 634 029 | Ursula Holloway Catechist Coordinator 9949 4455       |
| Fr Jepsen Bermudez Assistant Priest 0410 203 601             | Janette Davidson Sacramental Coordinator 0408 866 521 |
| Fr Senan Ward OSA Chaplain – St Augustine's College          | Anne Ross Parish Secretary 9949 4455                  |
| Fr Abel van der Veer OSA Retired 0409 368 449                | Jane Filacuridi Parish Secretary 9949 4455            |
| Fr Peter Jones OSA Provincial—In Residence                   |   |

*We acknowledge the Gayamagal and Canalgal people, the traditional custodians of this land and pay our respects to the elders past, present and emerging.*