

TAKING STOCK OF OURSELVES

Two thoughts emerge from today's readings. The first is John's dramatic declaration, Behold the Lamb of God. the second is an invitation to do a personal stock-taking during this first month of the new year, and make some resolutions to improve the quality of our lives. The Baptist urges us to ask what are we fundamentally about and then seek to reset our lives. And St Paul reminds us that we are "called to be saints together with all those who in every place call on the name of our Lord Jesus Christ."

An honest stock-taking of ourselves may unveil the selfish motives that often direct our actions. To rise above an ego-centric spirit we need to recognise something outside of and larger than ourselves, the God who cares for us and for the whole human community. Can we listen to John's call to restore what is broken, and Jesus' call, to bring light to the world? Do we see that it is with our cooperation that the Lamb can remove the "sin of the world?"

Facing our deepest personal truths is always difficult; it calls us to not just drift along with this world's evil, always taking the line of least resistance. Discipleship is urgent and costly, but it is also possible and is the way towards the deeper joy and fulfilment that our soul is longing for. If we properly hear the Baptist as he witnesses to Christ, our response will be a stocktaking that goes to the root of our being. It may even reveal to us the truth that sets us free.

> INVITATION to 2 interesting Courses being offered by the Broken Bay Institute (BBI) under the guidance of Fr Paul Maloney OSA and Paul Wilson

Semester 1 - 27 February 2023 – Justice & Peace – Catholic Social Teaching THEO42 –Online lectures

An opportunity to study and examine a variety of theories of social justice from ancient to modern philosophers and the historical development of modern Catholic Social Teaching, as is expressed in official documents and by experts in the field.

Semester 2 - Augustinian Spirituality for Social Justice THEO84 - Online lectures

An introduction to the spirituality from the life, teaching and tradition of St Augustine of Hippo. Augustinian Spirituality is an appreciation of justice for followers of Christ in their ministering to the poor, the disenfranchised, the refugee and the enslaved in any age.

See the BBI website for more information: <u>https://www.bbi.catholic.edu.au/learn-with-us/bbi-taite</u> -units/theological-studies/#banner-title

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Honorine Jarkey COMMUNITAS Working Group

Rest in Peace

ANNIVERSARIES

Arthur King	Fr P. Valerijan Jenko	
	0FM	
Elizabeth Lily Kelly	Aileen Treston	
RECENTLY DECEASED		
Yvonne Richardson	Simone Young	
Brian Keogh (Bathurst)	David Gilmore	
Pope Emeritus	Cardinal George Pell	
Benedict XVI		

For those with ILLNESS			
Zara Sapounas	Michael Lennon	Daniella Takchi	Mark Moscrop
Yvonne Taylor	Jenny B	Muireann Casey	Vince Jewell
Ed Burchard	Joan Killick	Mary Hulme	Pat Keogh
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		

This list will be reviewed every few weeks—contact the office for continued prayers

PARISH YOUTH MASS – Sunday 12 February 2023 – 6.00pm

NEED A PRIEST URGENTLY Please call 0490898464. If the matter is not urgent, please contact Priests via the Parish Office 9949 4455

The first **Parish Youth Mass** for 2023 will be on <u>Sunday 12</u> <u>February at 6pm</u> at St Kieran's Church, Manly Vale. All are welcome, especially families and youth. This is an important opportunity for all young people and their families to deepen their spiritual connection and strengthen their relationship with God. There will be refreshments afterwards. This **Youth event** is held twice a term. Please mark the date in your diary.



Australia's most senior Catholic, Cardinal George Pell, has died in Vatican City, Rome, aged 81.

The former Catholic Archbishop of Melbourne and Archbishop of Sydney died from heart complications on Tuesday evening following hip surgery. Archbishop of Melbourne Peter Comensoli said he was the Vatican's top finance minister before he left in 2017 to stand trial in Australia for child abuse offences, from which he was cleared.

Just before his death, Cardinal Pell was among those who attended Pope Emeritus Benedict's funeral last Thursday.

FROM ST AUGUSTINE

"For most cases, prayer consists more in groaning than in speaking, in tears rather than in words. But God sets our tears in His sight and our groaning is not hidden from Him who made all things by his Word and does not need our human words." (Letter to Proba)



NORTH HARBOUR PARISH TEAM

Fr Michael Belonio—Parish Priest (on sabbatical) Fr Paul Maloney OSA—Acting Parish Priest & Prior 0439 595 723 Fr Jumbim Torres—Assistant Priest 0450 109 880 Fr Senan Ward OSA Chaplain—St Augustine's College Fr Abel van der Veer OSA—Retired 0409 368 449 Fr Peter Jones OSA Provincial—In Residence

Jacky Worthingtor	n Parish Manager	9949 4455
Marianne Deveza	Music Co-ordinator	9949 4455
Ursula Halloway	Catechist Coordinator	9949 4455
Janette Davidson	Sacramental Coordinator	0408 866 521
Anne Ross	Parish Secretary	9949 4455
Jane Filacuridi	Parish Secretary	9949 4455

REGULAR PARISH MASS TIMES

St Cecilia's, Balgowlah SUNDAY 9.00AM WEDNESDAY 9.00AM St Kieran's, Manly Vale

SATURDAY VIGIL 5.30pm SUNDAY 7.30am, 9.30am & 6.00pm Weekdays 8.30am except Wednesdays St Augustine's Chapel, Brookvale Wednesdays 8.15am during term time RECONCILIATION St Kieran 5 – 5.30pm Saturday or by appointment.



BAPTISMS

St Cecilia	10.30am Sun. by appointment
	9.00am Mass on 1st Sundays of the month
St Kieran	11.30am Sun. by appointment
	9.30am Mass on 1st Sundays of the month
Baptism pr	eparation is required for 1st baptisms.
Contact pa	rish office 9949 4455
MARRIAGES	
Require 6 n	nonths notice and include Pre-marriage Course
as part of t	he preparation