



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



**14
DEC
2025**
YEAR A

Under the Pastoral Care of the Augustinians

Catholic Diocese of Broken Bay

Want to receive the bulletin via e-mail? Email comms@nhcatholic.org.au



3RD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Jesus said to them in reply, "Go and tell John what you hear and see." - Mt 11:4

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

FIRST READING

Isaiah 35:1-6, 10

The desert will rejoice and blossom.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 145:6-10. R. see Is 35:4

Lord, come and save us.

SECOND READING

James 5:7-10

Be patient, even in suffering.

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

Matthew 11:2-11

John asks, 'Are you the one who is to come?'

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

✉ OFFICE@NHCATHOLIC.ORG.AU
📍 2 KING STREET, MANLY VALE 2093 NSW
🌐 WWW.BBCATHOLIC.ORG.AU/NORTHHARBOUR
f WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/NORTHHARBOURCATHOLICS
☎ (02) 9949 4455



WEBSITE



FACEBOOK PAGE

WHY DO WE DO THAT?

Catholic Life Explained

Question:

Our prayer group has been reading the lives of some saints, and we were struck by how some of them thought they were such sinners. Why would someone so holy think they had such serious sin?

Answer:

Professional athletes practice the fundamentals of their sport over and over again, reaching for better form, consistency, and performance. They focus on the basics, review past performances, and visualize greater success. Practice makes better, if not perfect!

Spiritual masters such as the saints also looked for perfection. They practiced their faith in the search for holiness, grace, and virtue. Through sacraments, prayer, study, good works, and penance, they raised their level of awareness and their sensitivity to the presence of God, the demands of the Gospel, and the workings of the Holy Spirit. They examined their consciences daily, reviewing the day for moments of failure and times that they could have been more virtuous in one way or another. They resolved to do better, be more attentive, and alert!

Therefore, anything that would distract them or interfere with their relationship with God would be like a small black spot on a bright white wall — you can't miss it! The great saints were aware of sin and the presence of evil because they were so tuned into the struggle between good and evil that was fought in their own lives, hearts, and souls. ©LPi

BRINGING HOME THE GOSPEL

The Jews believe that the Messiah was the anointed one, the promised king of a new Israel. Jesus answers John's questions by talking about his relationship to the people he encounters. He lets John know that he fulfills Isaiah's messianic prophecies, but his kingdom is of a different sort. He is a healer, a reconciler. He brings good news to the poor.

The kingdom in which Jesus rules as the anointed one is not a set place or a particular country. The kingdom of God is wherever God's rule of love reigns. It is where greed and prejudice, self-absorption and pettiness are not welcomed. Some find the kingdom in fleeting moments of quiet peace, others in the joyful celebration of life. For too many suffering people, the kingdom is a distant dream. However, one thing is certain; we know the kingdom can be found almost anywhere.

Wherever there is healing or reconciliation, wherever the good news is proclaimed in word or action, we will find the kingdom of God. It can be shared around the kitchen table when we really listen to what each person has to say. It can be found as we bandage the scraped knee of a child and listen to the story of how she hurt herself. The kingdom of God is not just in some far-off heaven or afterlife. It is also found in the present, in the here and now. We are called to be kingdom builders—to create a safe environment for our children where they can feel loved and valued and where they can learn to love and value others.

FAMILY RESPONSE:

Ask family members to talk about a person who makes them feel good about themselves. Send a note or phone the person to let him or her know he or she is appreciated.

PERSONAL RESPONSE:

When and how have you experienced the kingdom of God? What do you want to remember from last week? What are you looking forward to next week? What are your concerns?

SEEK THE
LORD IN THE
PLACES YOU
FEAR TO GO

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WEEKLY SOCIAL JUSTICE CHALLENGES

Sunday's Gospel has Jesus answering the question of who he is by stating: "Go back and report to John what you hear and see: the blind recover their sight, cripples walk, lepers are cured, the deaf hear, dead men are raised to life, and the poor have the good news preached to them" (Mt. 11:2-11). Jesus equates his very identity with care for the poor and marginalised. Your challenge this week is to identify the blind, the lepers, and the poor in your life. Discuss one particular person in need whom God is calling you and your family to serve. Select an action you can do for this person, just as Jesus did. And remember that Pope Francis said that having a friend who is poor is a pathway to heaven.



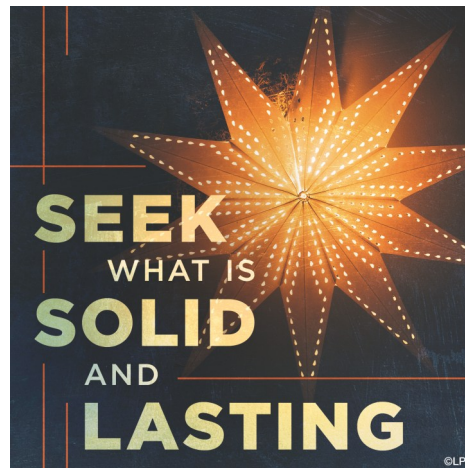
PASTORAL CARE FOR THE HOMEBOUND

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

"The wilderness and the parched land will exult; the Arabah will rejoice and bloom; like the crocus, it shall bloom abundantly, and rejoice with joyful song." —Isaiah 35:1-2

While parts of the world are parched by more frequent and prolonged droughts and others are flooded by hurricanes and superstorms, we are called to be ever-more conscious of our water usage. Fresh water shortages are predicted to become even more extreme in the coming years. While we are fortunate to have access to clean running tap water, let's not take it for granted. This week, be mindful of times when you run the water longer than necessary in the shower, bathroom, or kitchen sink. Strive to shorten those intervals and make using less water your norm.



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SICK CALLS

AND OTHER URGENT MATTERS

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

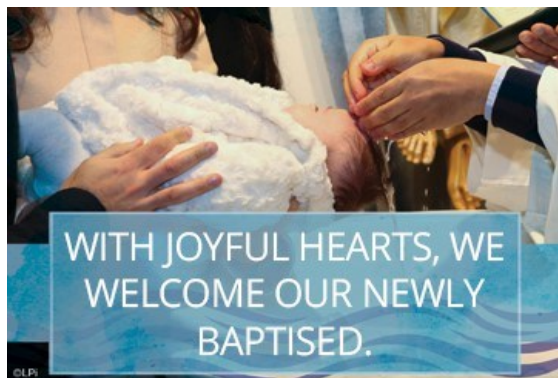
BUSINESS HOURS:

PARISH OFFICE—9949 4455

AFTER HOURS:

(Evenings & Weekends)

0490 898 464



Una Ava Cecconi

Daughter of Emilio & Aishling

Emmett Terence Breen

Ainsley Jane Breen

Children of Kieran & Lauren

Sinead Olivia Rose Symes

Daughter of Christopher James & Jessica Ann

PRAY FOR THOSE IN OUR COMMUNITY:

SICK:

Nigel Manchee, Remo Dellagiacoma, Odette James, Joyce Arnold, Peter and Jan Van de Velde, Cecilia Yeung, Gemma Mangelsdorf, Rodney Arnold

RECENTLY DECEASED:

Ivan Simic, Dongsoo Shin, Noel Woo, Armando Ianni, Yvonne Di Mauro

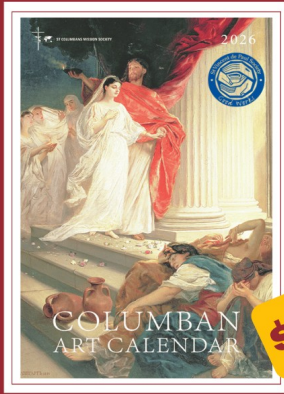
ANNIVERSARIES:

Kieran Martin, James Smyth, John Ardill, Maria Antonia Demasi

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

COLUMBAN ART CALENDAR



Available in the
**St Kieran's
Church Foyer.**

Please place
money in the
**Vinnies Donation
Box.**

\$10.

Thank you for your support



CATHOLIC COMMUNITY OF NORTH HARBOUR

Celebrate Christmas with us!

CHRISTMAS 2025 Masses

ST KIERAN'S CHURCH

2 King Street, Manly Vale NSW

ST CECILIA'S CHURCH

Wanganella St & White St Balgowlah NSW

WED 24 DECEMBER

ST KIERAN'S CHURCH

5:00PM  FAMILY MASS

7:30PM

ST CECILIA'S CHURCH

5:00PM  FAMILY MASS

7:30PM

THU 25 DECEMBER

ST KIERAN'S CHURCH

7:30AM

9:30AM

ST CECILIA'S CHURCH

9:00AM

**GRAB A COPY OF THE CARDS WITH MASS TIMES
AT THE CHURCH ENTRANCES**

You're invited to the

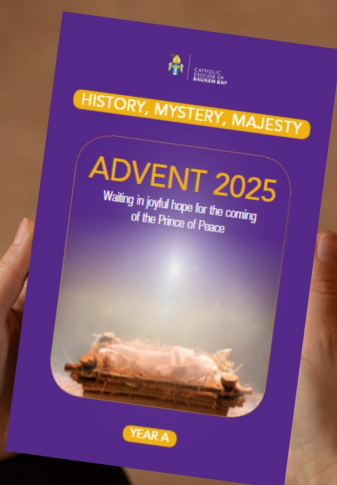
Mass for the Closing of the Jubilee Year of Hope

The Relics from our three Shrines of
Hope will journey to the Cathedral to
be present for this Mass.

Sunday 28 December 2025 | 9.30am
Our Lady of the Rosary Cathedral, Waitara



Copies are available at the Church
Entrances or scan the QR code
to get a digital copy instantly



One of our parishioners, **Lea Joris** has
written a beautiful reflection
in the booklet.

Thank you for your
generosity in giving to
our **Christmas Appeal.**

The hampers have
been packed with love.
You can still donate
by using the **envelopes**
in the churches or
using the **QR code.**

These funds
will support our
neighbours in need.
If you require a hand
up this Christmas, call
13 18 12

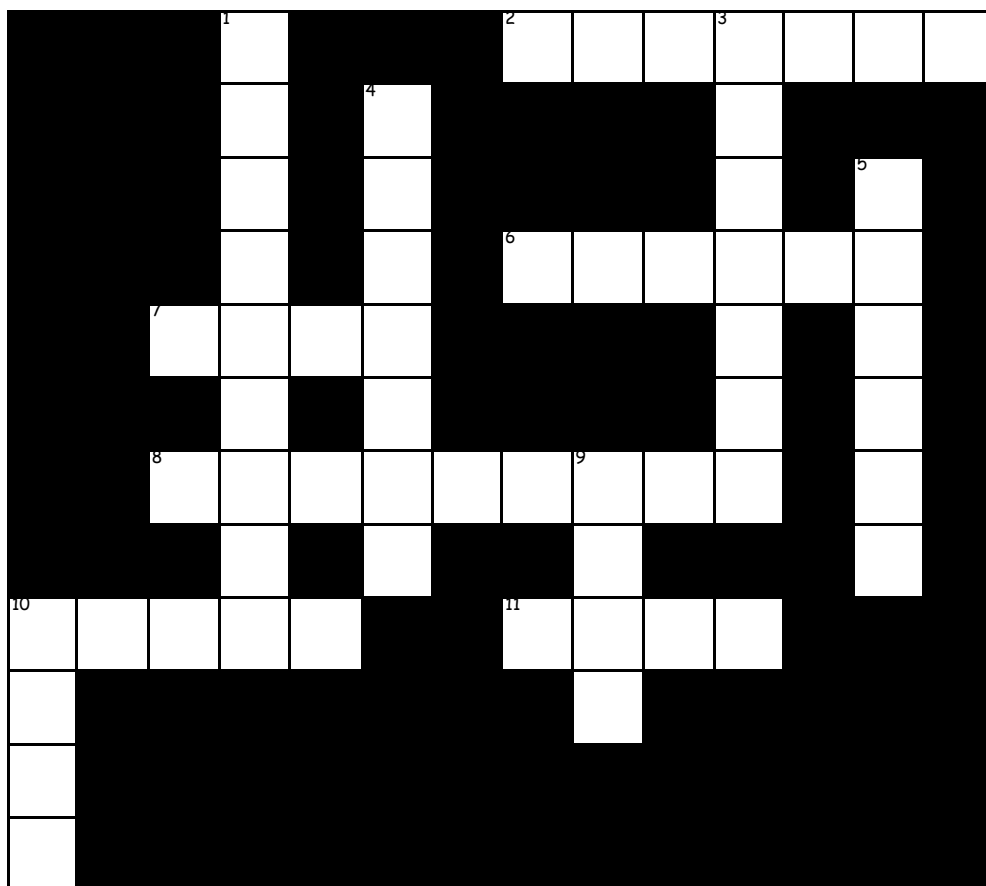


St Vincent de Paul Society
good works

Giving a hand up where needed



**THANK YOU FOR GIVING
THE GIFT OF HOPE
THIS CHRISTMAS.**



CROSSWORD PUZZLE

Jesus is coming to save us.

ACROSS

- 2: all the lands that are ruled by a king
- 6: where a king and queen live
- 7: having little or no money, food or possessions
- 8: someone who brings a message
- 10: less than anything else
- 11: he was in prison when he heard what Jesus was doing

DOWN

- 1: people who follow
- 3: bigger, more impressive
- 4: the disease that afflicts lepers
- 5: turn away, discard
- 9: Jesus was spreading the ____ news
- 10: not able to walk

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Sharing the Gospel

Jesus was the Messiah that the prophets said would come. The blind could see. The lame could walk. The deaf could hear. The dead were raised to life. Jesus performed many miracles to show that he was the Messiah. He was the one sent to save the world from sin. John expected Jesus to save himself. But Jesus knew that he had to die, be buried, and rise again to save you and me from our sins.

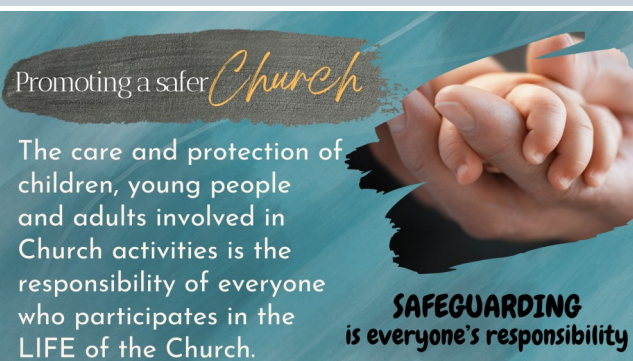
Prayer

Lord, thank you for dying on the cross for me.

Mission

I will find ways to make things easier for the blind, lame, and deaf.

©LPi



COLOR

Read the Gospel of the week and color the image.





Lord, You are my helper and the helper of everyone who reaches out to You. Indeed,
You are my Redeemer for the very purpose of enabling me to reach out to You.

Commentary on Psalm 18, 15
- St. Augustine of Hippo

NEXT WEEKEND (21 DECEMBER 2025): 4TH SUNDAY OF ADVENT, YEAR A

FIRST READING
Isaiah 7:10-14
Prediction of Immanuel, born of a virgin.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM
Ps 23:1-6. R. see vv 7. 10
*Let the Lord enter;
he is king of glory.*

SECOND READING
Romans 1:1-7
*Paul spreads the news of the
Son of God.*

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION
Matthew 1:23
Alleluia, alleluia!
*A virgin will give birth to a
son; his name will be
Emmanuel: God is with us.
Alleluia!*

GOSPEL
Matthew 1:18-24
*An angel visits Joseph, who
takes Mary as his wife.*

20 DEC, 5.30PM
ST KIERAN'S

Senior Server
Stephen

Readers
Terry
Rick
Elizabeth (R)

Music
Filipino Choir

Communion Min
Jenny
Volunteer Needed

Powerpoint
Volunteer needed

Welcomers
Volunteers needed

21 DEC, 7.30AM
ST KIERAN'S

Senior Server
Michael

Readers
Jenny
Seamus
Elsie (R)

Music
none

Communion Min
Lea
Paul

Powerpoint
Joseph

Welcomers
Volunteers needed

21 DEC, 9AM
ST CECILIA'S

Senior Server
Ian, Lucas

Readers
Phil
Sandra
Gai (R)

Music
The Conmen

Communion Min
Volunteer Needed
Volunteer Needed

Powerpoint
Volunteer needed

Welcomers
Volunteers needed

21 DEC, 9.30AM
ST KIERAN'S

Senior Server
Adrian

Readers
Fatima
Cathie
Dale (R)

Music
TBD

Communion Min
Titus
Catherine

Powerpoint
Volunteer needed

Welcomers
Volunteers needed

21 DEC, 5PM
ST KIERAN'S

Senior Server
Edelvine

Readers

Family Mass

Music
TBD

Communion Min
Volunteer Needed
Volunteer Needed

Powerpoint
Volunteer needed

Welcomers
Volunteers needed

OBSERVANCES FOR THE WEEK OF 14 DECEMBER

Mon 15 Dec: Monday of the 3rd Week of Advent
Tue 16 Dec: Tuesday of the 3rd Week of Advent
Wed 17 Dec: Wednesday of the 3rd Week of Advent
Thu 18 Dec: Thursday of the 3rd Week of Advent
Fri 19 Dec: Friday of the 3rd Week of Advent
Sat 20 Dec: Saturday of the 3rd Week of Advent

The Catholic Community of North Harbour



Under the Pastoral Care of the Augustinians

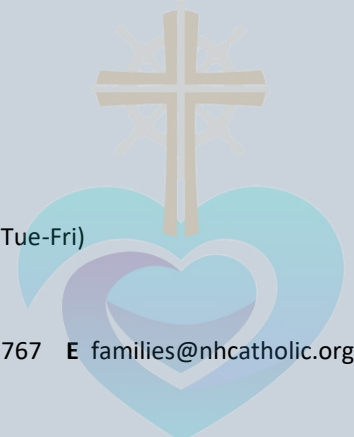
Catholic Diocese of Broken Bay www.bbcatholic.org.au

Parish Office 2 King Street, MANLY VALE 2093 NSW AUSTRALIA
P 02 9949 4455 E office@nhcatholic.org.au W 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
Asst Priest: Fr Jumbim Torres, OSA E jtorres@nhcatholic.org.au
Asst Priest: Fr John Zhang E jzhang@nhcatholic.org.au
Administration Officer: Charlene Mendoza E admin@nhcatholic.org.au (Tue-Fri)
Bookkeeper: Valerie Buono E accounts@nhcatholic.org.au (Thu)
Secretary: Anne Ross E office@nhcatholic.org.au (Thu, Fri)
Catechists, Family & Sacramental Ministries: Ursula Hallaway M 0450 101 767 E families@nhcatholic.org.au
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Music Ministry: Marianne Kaw-Deveza E music@nhcatholic.org.au



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St Kieran's Catholic
Primary School



Principal:
Ms Margaret Holles



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Enrolling!

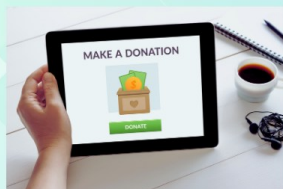
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CATHOLIC SCHOOLS BROKEN BAY
Co-educational pathways K - 12

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



THE CATHOLIC COMMUNITY OF
NORTH HARBOUR



CATHOLIC
DIOCESE OF
BROKEN BAY



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GIVING
(Second Collection)



PASTORAL WORKS
BROKEN BAY
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church entrances

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to
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