



The Catholic Parish of Pittwater

Sacred Heart & Maria Regina, Neighbourhoods of Grace, entrusted to the care of the Salvatorians.



Prayer of Entrustment to the *Divine Mercy*

O Lord, our God.

We place our trust in You,
because You are mercy itself.
We repent of our sins and turn to
You for mercy.

We trust You to provide for our
every need, according to Your will.
Help us to forgive others as
You forgive us.

We promise to be merciful by our
deeds, words and prayers.
We entrust to You the future of our
planet, our Church, our nations,
our families and all our needs.

With loud cries we implore Your
mercy on us and the whole world.
Look upon us, created in Your image
and likeness.

Form us in the Heart of Mary by the
power of the Holy Spirit into the living
images of mercy.

May all come to know the depth of
Your mercy and sing the praises of
Your mercy forever. Amen.

Continue to practise good
hygiene. *Please use the
hand sanitisers provided
in both of our Churches.*

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The Catholic Parish
of Pittwater



Thoughts of Fr Francis Jordan

If you wish to obtain something from the Lord, you
will obtain whatever you ask for through prayer.



POPE FRANCIS' PRAYER INTENTION FOR SEPTEMBER

Abolition of the Death Penalty

We pray that the death penalty,
which attacks the dignity of the
human person, may be legally
abolished in every country.



You can find us on
Instagram
(pittwater_parish)

If you have used this
bulletin, please take it
home with you.

A warm welcome to all
our parishioners and
visitors who are
celebrating the Eucharist
with us at Pittwater Parish
Sacred Heart Church
and
Maria Regina Church

MASS TIMES

SACRED HEART CHURCH
1 Keenan Street, Mona Vale

Weekday Masses

Tuesday 8.30am

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, Adoration, Reconciliation and Benediction from 8am, followed by Mass at 9.30am

Wednesday 9.30am

Thursday 7pm

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, Adoration, Reconciliation and Benediction from 7.30pm to 9pm

Friday 9.30am

First Friday of the Month, Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, Adoration, Reconciliation and Benediction from 9.30am, followed by Mass with Anointing of the Sick at 10.30am

Weekend Masses

Saturday Vigil 5.00pm

Sunday 8.00am • 10.00am • 6.00pm (SOUL)

Reconciliation

4.00pm to 4.30pm Saturday

Baptism

4th Sunday - 11.30am

MARIA REGINA CHURCH
7 Central Road, Avalon

Weekday Masses

Monday 8am

Wednesday 8am

Thursday 10am

9am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, Adoration and Benediction at 9.45am
Friday 8am

Mass with Anointing of the Sick - First Friday of the Month at 8am

Weekend Masses

Saturday Vigil 6.00pm

Sunday 9.00am

Reconciliation

Before Vigil Mass on Saturday

Baptism

3rd Sunday - 11.00am

We Pray for Deceased Anniversary *Jakob Vukovic*

Recently Deceased

*John Tulloh
Thomas Britt*

If you would like the names of your relatives or friends and offerings included, please drop the envelope in to the Parish Office by

Prayers for the Sick

Franciszek Smigowski

Anna Smigowska

Nick Moullakis

M. Miller

Annette Davis

Andrew Hood

Jeff Langley

Erin Ocampo

Mark Lindfiels

Vicky Kalingasan

Bill Eyre

Brian Gregan

Mrian Poe

Marcia Bailey

Bec Burroughs

Susan Hickey

Sophia Burfitt

Margaret De Landre

Maeve Robinson

Jenny Carroll

Matt Ukishima

Pietrina Maiorana

Mina Lee

Denise Wagner

Ron

Leonie Ariemetto

John Graham

Liturgy for the Week

12/09 Monday in Ordinary Time 24
1 Cor 11:17-26, 33; Lk 7:1-10

13/09 Tuesday, St John Chrysostom
1 Cor 12:12-14, 27-31;
Lk 7:11-17

14/09 Wednesday The Exaltation of the Holy Cross
Num 21:4-9; Jn 3:13-17

15/09 Thursday, Our Lady of Sorrows
Heb 5:7-9; Jn 19:25-27

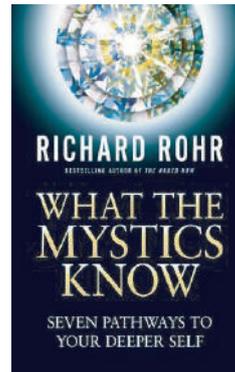
16/09 Friday, St Cornelius
1 Cor 15:12-20; Lk 8:1-3

17/09 Saturday in Ordinary Time 24
1 Cor 15:35-37, 42-49;
Lk 8:4-15

BOOK REVIEW

**What the Mystics Know
Seven Pathways to
Your Deeper Self**

by: *Richard Rohr*



Rohr identifies the despair of
everyday life and therefore.

PARISHIONERS

We are now taking orders for the 2023 Daily Mass Book which contains all the texts for Sunday and weekday Mass, including the chants for parts of the Mass. Published in a compact format; the Daily Mass Book is convenient and economical. Printed in two colours throughout, its layout is easy to follow. Runs from Advent to Advent. Cost is \$25 each.

If you would like to order a copy please contact Donita at the Parish office by 24th September 2022. The bulk order will be placed on Monday 26th September.

Please note: Any orders placed after this date will incur the full postage cost of \$9.70

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GIVING

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Caritas Ukraine urgently needs your support

Caritas Australia is currently raising funds to support communities impacted by the conflict in Ukraine. Visit: caritas.org.au/donate/emergency-appeals/ukraine/ or call: 1800 024 413 toll free to provide much needed support.

 **Caritas**
AUSTRALIA



Grace Must Come for the Debased Unworthy

Jan Rubens was in love, and then he was on the run. Once the affair with Anna of Saxony was discovered and Jan was arrested, he ran back to his wife, Peter Paul's mother, begging her for forgiveness and for help. Who knows what was in the man's heart? Maybe the whole ordeal created deep within the soul of Jan Rubens a love of his wife that had never existed before. Maybe the fog of love was lifted from his eyes, the fog of lust cleared away and gone too was the clouding monomania that sets in when a married man runs into the arms of another woman. Maybe one passion had overtaken the mind of Jan Rubens as he fell into this desperate affair with Anna of Saxony, an otherwise difficult woman as the contemporary sources say, and it made him forget about the rest of the world. He started to see everything through the lens of this clawing need, the need to be with Anna of Saxony, the need to manufacture more and more reasons that he spend time with her, work on projects with her, center his life around her. This became a demanding and unforgiving logic.

When the affair finally got busted up, Jan Rubens emerged from the experience as if waking up from a dream. Suddenly, that passion didn't seem real anymore. Suddenly, the insane drive to be with Anna of Saxony didn't even make sense. What had he been thinking? At that moment, the whole experience with Anna of Saxony might have seemed to Jan Rubens like an insane aberration. He might have found it extremely difficult to understand himself, although it had undeniably been his own self, that very same person, him, who had fallen down, down into the obsession with Anna of Saxony, a woman who now seemed to him so terribly flawed, who seemed to be a selfish and demanding woman, who seemed never to have been worthy of all that effort in the first place. We can only imagine what it could have been like for Jan Rubens to go back to his own wife in shame and supplication.

We can only imagine what may have happened in the interior of Jan Rubens, to his thoughts and feelings when he received from his wife, Maria Rubens, a letter telling him that all was forgiven and that she would, in fact, stand by his side through all manner of worldly debacle. There is an astounding, you might even call it heroic, letter from Maria Rubens to Jan Rubens stating just such opinions. Or maybe it is a pathetic and weak letter, an embarrassing letter. It is hard to say. But the letter exists. It is part of the historical record. One part of me wants to call the letter heroic for the simple reason that it is so big of heart, so magnanimous, as they say. It is the kind of letter that only a person without the normal stores of anger and bitterness could write. That is what we can assume, at least.

In truth, it is impossible to know what motivated the letter. Maybe in some twisted and martyring way there is a form of revenge in the letter that Maria sent to Jan. Perhaps she gloried in her goodness. Maybe she lorded it over her husband, jabbing the fact of her own courage and fortitude into the soul of the man, a man who was deeply aware of his own cowardice, his own petty lusts. In fact, it is difficult to imagine that Maria Rubens was acting purely from the sense of a greater good, that her own capacity for big acts of spirit and generosity could have been of such astounding depth. So she will be a mystery to us, this Maria Rubens, as will so many women of that era, who have been erased except insofar as their lives touched upon the men in their lives, as will, in most ways, even Jan Rubens, and as will the specific thoughts of his son, Peter Paul Rubens, about his ruined father.

Still, there is a real accomplishment simply in being the father of the man who would later paint the portrait of Silenus. Even if it isn't deserved. Even if the admiration cannot be linked to anything that Jan Rubens specifically did, the benefit comes anyway. In this, it has a similarity to the structure of grace.

Grace doesn't come for a reason. If it did, it could be "earned." And earned grace wouldn't be grace. If you want grace, if you are trying to get it, then you see it as a reward and it is not a reward. The paradox of grace is that it has to come for no reason at all. Grace must come, sometimes, often times, for the debased and unworthy. If it did not, it would have no meaning. And yet, the very fact that it comes to the debased and the unworthy threatens to make it meaningless, inscrutable to the point of being unreal. This is the hard thought. Probably grace is something that resists too much thought. Do we see it, though? Do we see it in the world, the way that an impossible grace does seem to touch the people of the world in unpredictable ways? Do we? We see for a moment just what is happening and why, even though we lose the thought just as immediately, even though we can't bring it down enough to pick it apart and interrogate it. It escapes. Grace comes and then it escapes, before we were ever able to know it. Maybe Jan Rubens is the recipient of a form of historical grace. Maria Rubens is just such a person, no matter how often we can suspect her, even doubt her. Did she have a devilish way of seeing ten moves ahead in the game of life and somehow calculating her way to an act of grace? Then it wouldn't be grace anymore, of course. Then we could take it away from her, we could snatch her grace back and call her the greatest devil of them all. She would be guilty of taking her husband's shame as a vehicle for her own greatness. She would be terrible, the most calculating woman imaginable. Or maybe she was just weak. She wanted her man back and she was willing to grovel at the feet of princes and potentates and to forgive all the selfishness and pettiness of her own husband because she didn't have strength enough just to walk away. She was a woman, perhaps, trapped in her historical circumstances. She was a woman silenced and trapped and her only route forward was to try to rebuild, pitifully, the marital life that had existed for her before everything fell apart. What else could she do as a woman of the sixteenth century? And so her letter is just another sad document of what it means to be a woman in an era when being a woman was a kind of prison and cage. But we cannot take it away from Maria Rubens, we can't take that letter away from her completely. The part that wants to distrust her in her moment of grace is overwhelmed by the fact of the thing. She did write that letter and, more importantly, she followed through on what it meant.

But the letter is also an act of great defiance. She did it. She defied history. She defied the execution ordered by William the Silent. She defied the selfishness of her husband. There is a stubborn and immense power that can still touch one, through all the centuries, in that letter from Maria Rubens. She is still alive in that letter, while her husband, the cowardly Jan Rubens, is so very dead to us now. She, Maria Rubens, is the very vehicle Jan Rubens experiences passion as love and love as death of grace, while he, Jan Rubens, is simply the undeserving recipient.

And then came the second act of grace, which was bestowed by the force of history in a backward-moving motion. Jan Rubens's son, Peter Paul Rubens, began to paint. And in painting Peter Paul found something. Peter Paul Rubens had a greatness in him. He painted, for instance, the Silenus painting. And from that painting it is almost as if the vapors from the oils and the chemicals themselves drift back into history and do the work of grace. Something goes back to the father and raises him up and redeems him. Suddenly, and in death, the father becomes a participant in that greatness although he has done nothing at all, although nothing has changed, although the facts of his life and his disgrace and his cowardly abandonment of everything he once stood for have not changed. Nothing has changed. But Jan Rubens has been changed. An act of historical grace has occurred.

*by Morgan Meis
Church Life Journal*

Parish Directory

Pittwater Parish

1 Keenan Street Mona Vale
NSW 2103
Tel 9157 0999

Parish Priest

Fr Richard Sadowski SDS
Tel 9157 0999 ext 10
pp@pittwaterparish.org

Assistant Priest

Fr Zygmunt Smigowski SDS
Tel 9157 0999 ext 12
ap@pittwaterparish.org

Parish Secretary

Donita Kerin
Tel 9157 0999 ext 30
office@pittwaterparish.org

Director of Music

Josh Willard
Tel 9157 0999 ext 17
music@pittwaterparish.org

Media & Communication

Conille Felias
Tel 9157 0999 ext 31
media@pittwaterparish.org

Sacrament Coordinator

Sonia Samartin
Tel 9157 0999 ext 13
sacraments@pittwaterparish.org

Parish Office Hours

Monday to Thursday
9.00 am to 4.00 pm
Friday
9.00 am to 12.00 pm

Sacred Heart Church

1 Keenan Street Mona Vale
Maria Regina Church
7 Central Road Avalon

MONA VALE

Sacred Heart School
Tel 8197 6900

Principal: Mr Jamie Wahab

AVALON

Maria Regina School
Tel 9918 2608

Principal: Miss Kirsty Thorpe

WARRIEWOOD

Mater Maria Catholic College
Tel 9997 7044

Principal: Mr Marc Reicher



Parish Bulletin – Term 3, Week 8

This week our Year 12 students are focused on completing their final course content and completing revision for their HSC Exams. It is an exciting time for Year 12 as they enjoy their final days of school and make memories that they will hold dearly in the future.

On Tuesday, students worked collaboratively in small groups in the Benedict Learning Centre to create a children's book for the Westmead Hospital children. They spent the day writing, editing, illustrating, and publishing their books for our annual 'Write a Book in a Day' event. This event fosters camaraderie and an overall appreciation for a love of literature and books.

Despite the wet weather, we had another busy week of sport at the College despite the wet weather. Peninsula Cup Boys Rugby Union and Girls Soccer Competitions and the MWBA Basketball Competition. We thank our students for their school spirit and for representing the College at these sporting events.

Applications for Year 7, 2025 are now open. There are waiting lists for Year 7, 2023 and Year 7, 2024. For more information about enrolling at our Mater Maria Catholic College please visit <https://matermaria.nsw.edu.au/enrolments/>.



SERRA VOCATIONS MASS AND DINNER MEETING

Father Ed Travers Resident Chaplain to the Benedictine Abbey at Jamberoo and previously External Spiritual Director of the Good Shepherd Seminary Homebush will be celebrating Mass for Serra at Sacred Heart Church Pymble on Thursday 22nd September 2022. The evening commences with Mass at 6.00 PM followed by a light meal and a short meeting. Following the meeting Father Ed will be speaking to us; his topic is "The Real Presence of Jesus in the Eucharist". Everyone is welcome. Please "Come and See". Please remember to pray every day for vocations to the priesthood, diaconate, the consecrated life, ecclesial women, all seminarians, novices, and diaconate aspirants and for the perseverance of existing vocations. Please telephone: **Terry Scanlan** on **0438 887 295** or email terry_scanlan@bigpond.com if you would like to attend.

SOIBADA UPDATE

One tiny Nun has changed the future of Soibada's families.

One of the things that always astounds me about Timor Leste is the deep faith of the people and the strong sense of spirituality that imbues everyday life. They are a people whose lives have been shaped by suffering and war, yet they continue to believe. Catholicism is inherent to their existence but many animist beliefs have become intertwined. I love that trust in God is a natural part of everyday life. The people sing tunefully and they sing a lot. Walking down the steep rocky road (trying not to slip as the gravel rolls beneath my feet) I hear the children laughing and cheerfully singing hymns as they carry buckets of water from the pump to their houses or collect sticks for the fire so their mothers can cook the rice for dinner. Even in Tetun the songs sound familiar. It took me a while to realise that one of the common ones was "Ten Thousand Reasons" that we sing often at Mass.

On our last trip, I had the privilege of spending a great deal of time with Sister Alita. A diminutive Nun with a lot of power! She was my interpreter and translated tirelessly at every meeting (and there were many). Sometimes her translations took a lot longer than I expected and she'd nudge me with her elbow and say, "just adding a bit of sugar Mana!" She is also the Director of the Preschool and a driving force behind change and development in Soibada. She has created a "Parents Group" that met with us because they want to learn new skills and create a craft cooperative. We held a workshop at the Guesthouse Training Centre that was chaotic and joyous but very productive. The group planned items to make to sell to the pilgrims when they visit Soibada in October. I will have items made in the village for sale in Avalon on 11 September. All the funds will go towards projects in Soibada.

Tamara

If you are interested in getting involved in this or any of the other projects please check out the Friends of Soibada

Facebook Page

<https://www.facebook.com/friendsofsoibada>

or get in touch with Tamara at tamara.harding@bigpond.com or 0403226699



Thank You
Message from
Barbara Tulloh

“My warmest thank you
to all our dear Parishioners
who came to share the
beautiful memories and
celebration of my darling
John’s life.

Your kindness and your
reaching out are very much
appreciated at this most
difficult time.”

We pray for the passing of Her Majesty,
Queen Elizabeth II

21 April 1926

8 September 2022



SATURDAY, 24 SEPTEMBER 2022

*Let us, as we come together at the Altar to share in
the Eucharistic Meal, come together as a community to share our culture
through food.*

108th

**WORLD DAY OF
MIGRANTS AND
REFUGEES**



The *Living* Word

Entrance Antiphon Cf. Sir 36:18

Give peace, O Lord, to those who wait for you, that your prophets be found true. Hear the prayers of your servant, and of your people Israel.

First Reading Ex 32:7-11. 13-14

A reading from the book of Exodus
The Lord relented and did not send the evil he had threatened.

The Lord spoke to Moses, 'Go down now, because your people whom you brought out of Egypt have apostatised. They have been quick to leave the way I marked out for them; they have made themselves a calf of molten metal and have worshipped it and offered it sacrifice. "Here is your God, Israel," they have cried, "who brought you up from the land of Egypt!" I can see how headstrong these people are! Leave me, now, my wrath shall blaze out against them and devour them; of you, however, I will make a great nation.'

But Moses pleaded with the Lord his God. 'Lord,' he said, 'why should your wrath blaze out against this people of yours whom you brought out of the land of Egypt with arm outstretched and mighty hand? Remember Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, your servants to whom by your own self you swore and made this promise: I will make your offspring as many as the stars of heaven, and all this land which I promised I will give to your descendants, and it shall be their heritage for ever.' So the Lord relented and did not bring on his people the disaster he had threatened.

The word of the Lord

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 50:3-4. 12-13. 17. 19. R. Lk 15:18

(R.) I will rise and go to my father.

Have mercy on me, God, in your kindness. In your compassion blot out my offence. O wash me more and more from my guilt and cleanse me from my sin. **(R)**

A pure heart create for me, O God, put a steadfast spirit within me. Do not cast me away from your presence, nor deprive me of your holy spirit. **(R)**

O Lord, open my lips and my mouth shall declare your praise. My sacrifice is a contrite spirit; a humbled, contrite heart you will not spurn. **(R)**

Second Reading 1 Tm 1:12-17

A reading from the letter of St Paul to Timothy
Christ came to save sinners.

I thank Christ Jesus our Lord, who has given me strength, and who judged me faithful enough to call me into his service even though I used to be a blasphemer and did all I could to injure and discredit the faith. Mercy, however, was shown

me, because until I became a believer I had been acting in ignorance; and the grace of our Lord filled me with faith and with the love that is in Christ Jesus. Here is a saying that you can rely on and nobody should doubt: that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners. I myself am the greatest of them; and if mercy has been shown to me, it is because Jesus Christ meant to make me the greatest evidence of his inexhaustible patience for all the other people who would later have to trust in him to come to eternal life. To the eternal King, the undying, invisible and only God, be honour and glory for ever and ever. Amen.

The word of the Lord

Gospel Acclamation 2 Cor 5:19

Alleluia, alleluia!

God was in Christ, to reconcile the world to himself; and the Good News of reconciliation he has entrusted to us.

Alleluia!

Gospel Lk 15:1-32

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

There will be joy in heaven over one sinner who does penance.

The tax collectors and the sinners were all seeking the company of Jesus to hear what he had to say, and the Pharisees and the scribes complained. 'This man' they said 'welcomes sinners and eats with them.' So he spoke this parable to them: 'What man among you with a hundred sheep, losing one, would not leave the ninety-nine in the wilderness and go after the missing one till he found it? And when he found it, would he not joyfully take it on his shoulders and then, when he got home, call together his friends and neighbours? "Rejoice with me," he would say "I have found my sheep that was lost." In the same way, I tell you, there will be more rejoicing in heaven over one repentant sinner than over ninety-nine virtuous men who have no need of repentance.'

'Or again, what woman with ten drachmas would not, if she lost one, light a lamp and sweep out the house and search thoroughly till she found it? And then, when she had found it, call together her friends and neighbours? "Rejoice with me," she would say "I have found the drachma I lost." In the same way, I tell you, there is rejoicing among the angels of God over one repentant sinner.' He also said, 'A man had two sons. The younger said to his father, "Father, let me have the share of the estate that would come to me." So the father divided the property between them. A few days later, the younger son got together everything

he had and left for a distant country where he squandered his money on a life of debauchery.

'When he had spent it all, that country experienced a severe famine, and now he began to feel the pinch, so he hired himself out to one of the local inhabitants who put him on his farm to feed the pigs. And he would willingly have filled his belly with the husks the pigs were eating but no one offered him anything. Then he came to his senses and said, "How many of my father's paid servants have more food than they want, and here am I dying of hunger! I will leave this place and go to my father and say: Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you; I no longer deserve to be called your son; treat me as one of your paid servants." So he left the place and went back to his father.'

'While he was still a long way off, his father saw him and was moved with pity. He ran to the boy, clasped him in his arms and kissed him tenderly. Then his son said, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I no longer deserve to be called your son." But the father said to his servants, "Quick! Bring out the best robe and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. Bring the calf we have been fattening, and kill it; we are going to have a feast, a celebration, because this son of mine was dead and has come back to life; he was lost and is found." And they began to celebrate.'

'Now the elder son was out in the fields, and on his way back, as he drew near the house, he could hear music and dancing. Calling one of the servants he asked what it was all about. "Your brother has come" replied the servant, "and your father has killed the calf we had fattened because he has got him back safe and sound." He was angry then and refused to go in, and his father came out to plead with him; but he answered his father, "Look, all these years I have slaved for you and never once disobeyed your orders, yet you never offered me so much as a kid for me to celebrate with my friends. But, for this son of yours, when he comes back after swallowing up your property – he and his women – you kill the calf we had been fattening."

'The father said, "My son, you are with me always and all I have is yours. But it was only right we should celebrate and rejoice, because your brother here was dead and has come to life; he was lost and is found."

The Gospel of the Lord

Communion Antiphon Cf. Ps 35:8

How precious is your mercy, O God!
The children of men seek shelter in the shadow of your wings.

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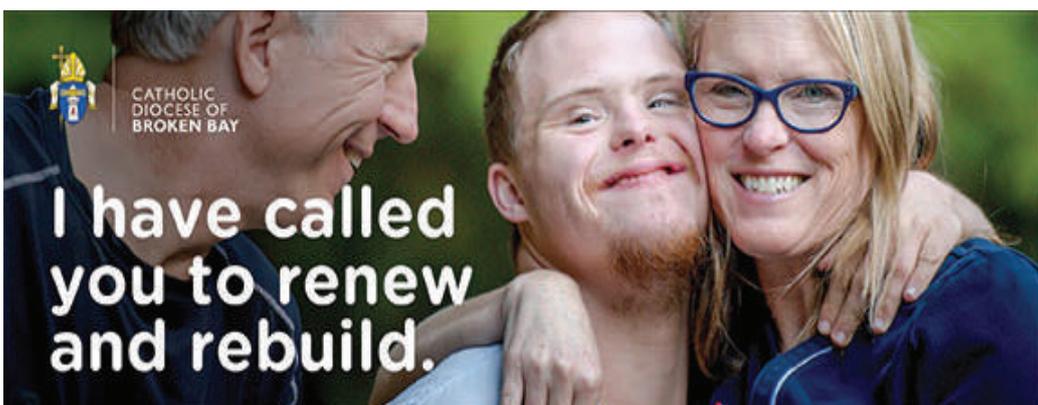
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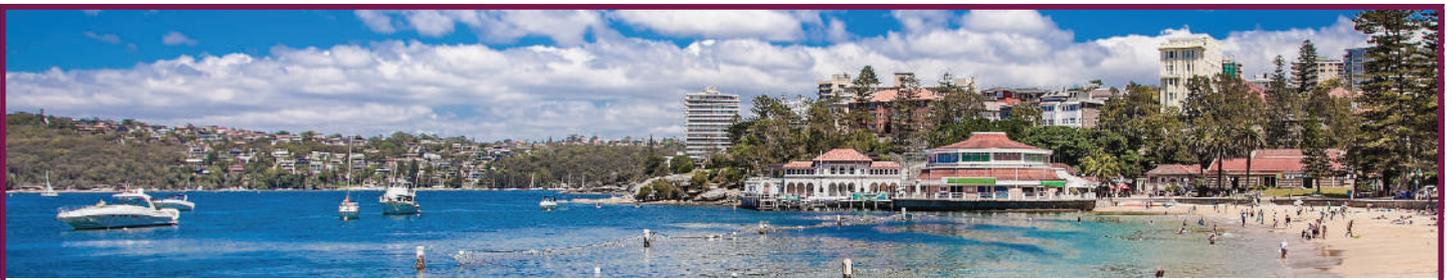


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Len Papandrea
B.PHARM. MPS
Sam Papandrea
B.PHARM. MPS
Andrew Snow
B.PHARM. MPS

1771 Pittwater Road
Mona Vale 2103
Ph: 9999 3398 Fax: 9999 3910

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