

Lenten Prayer

Heavenly Father, as we enter another week of our Lenten journey, guide us to the path that leads to You. You have given the human race. Jesus Christ, our Saviour as a model of humility. Fill our hearts with gratitude, patience, strength and peace as we strive to become the best version of ourselves, honestly admitting our shortcomings and sins. Make us worthy to share in Your Resurrection. We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, Your Son. Amen.

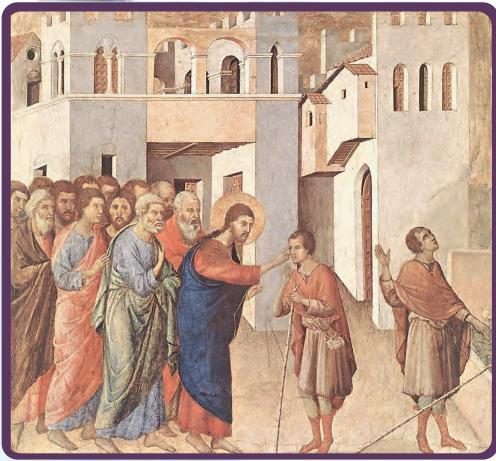


of Pittwater

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



Thoughts of Fr Francis Jordan
Reveal to me and teach me Your will Oh God almighty!
See, I am ready, but you, Lord, help me.





You can find us on

(pittwater_parish)

Instagram

POPE FRANCIS' PRAYER INTENTION FOR MARCH For Victims of Abuse
We pray for those who have suffered harm from members of the Church; may they find within the Church herself a concrete response to their pain and suffering.

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

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,

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 10%

Deceased Anniversary Jakov Urem Ana Urem

Ana Urem Mara <mark>U</mark>rem Jakov <mark>Jnr</mark> Urem Josip Urem

Prayers for the Sick

Anna Smigowska Sarah Zofrea Guy Zofrea Avelino Samartin Bill O'Connor **Andrew Hood Jeff Langley** Mark Lindfiels Nick Moullakis Tim Bosher **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 Tom Murphy** Leonie Ariemetto

Liturgy for the Week

20/03 Monday, St Joseph, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary 2 Sam 7:4-5, 12-14, 16; Mt 1:16, 18-21, 24

- 21/03 Tuesday, 4th Week of Lent Ezek 47:1-9, 12; Jn 5:1-3, 5-16
- 22/03 Wednesday, 4th Week of Lent Is 49:8-15;Jn 5:17-30
- 23/03 Thursday, 4th Week of Lent Ex 32:7-14; Jn 5:31-47
- 24/03 Friday, 4th Week of Lent Wis 2:1, 12-22; Jn 7:1-2, 10, 25-30
- 25/03 Saturday, The Annunciation of the Lord Is 7:10-14, 8:10; Lk 1:26-38

BOOK REVIEW

Lord, Have Mercy The Healing Power of Confession by Anthony J. Gittins



As a former Protestant, Scott found confession a challenge which, with wise guidance, he came to understand was the gift of forgiveness which we receive in the sacrament to free us from our guilt.

CATECHISTS WANTED

John Graham

Help lead our Children to Jesus. We need you to VOLUNTEER to share the Catholic FAITH For more information, please contact Maureen Wooldridge 0421 907 469 or Veronica Thomas 0417 061 534

SERRA VOCATION MASS AND DINNER MEETING

Father Ireneusz (Irek) Czech SDS, Parish Priest of Pymble Catholic Parish, will be celebrating Mass for Serra at Sacred Heart Church Pymble on

Thursday 23rd March 2023.

The evening commences with **Mass at 6.00** PM followed by a light meal and a short meeting. Following the meeting Father Irek will speak to us about his vocation journey and discuss Salvatorian Spirituality.

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 and novices 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.

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Use this App to support our Clergy through the first collection and our Parish through the second collection. Donations can be made weekly, fortnightly,monthly or one-off.

Thank you for your continued contributions and support. Your financial contributions and your generous donations throughout the year are greatly appreciated.



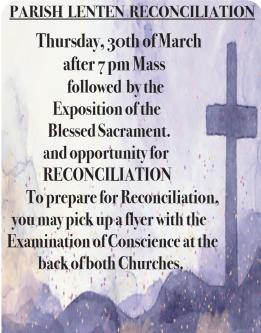
THURSDAY MORNING SPIRITUALITY GROUP

Every Thursday, the Spirituality Group will be held at 10:30 am after the 10 am Mass for Morning Tea followed by study and contemplation until 12 noon.

at Maria Regina Church Hall Avalon



Every Friday in Lent after morning Mass at both churches. Sacred Heart Church & Maria Regina Church



Project Compassion Third Sunday of Lent 18 & 19 March



Thu lives in Vietnam. When Thu was 12 years old, he stepped on an unexploded land mine and lost his leg. Living with a disability in rural Vietnam presented many challenges for Thu, who worked mainly as a rice farmer. Thu also took on the role of caring for his wife, Linh, after she suffered a stroke. Determined to turn their lives around, Thu and Linh joined the Empowerment of People with Disabilities program, run by Caritas Australia's local partner in Vietnam, the Centre for Sustainable Rural Development (SRD). For Thu, the greatest impact the program has had is enabling the change in Linh's physical and mental wellbeing. With the support of a physiotherapist, Linh can now walk short distances with the aid of a walking stick.

Please donate to Project Compassion 2023.

You can donate through Project Compassion donation boxes and envelopes available from your parish, by visiting

caritas.org.au/project-compassion, or by calling 1800 024 413.









Parish Directory

Pittwater Parish

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pp@pittwaterparish.org

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

Josh Willard
Tel 9157 0999 ext 17
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Media & Communication Conille Felias

Tel 9157 0999 ext 31 media@pittwaterparish.org

Sacramental Coordinator Sonia Samartin

Tel 9157 0999 ext 13 sacraments@pittwaterparish.org

CCD Catechist Coordinators

Maureen Wooldridge

Mobile 0421 907 469

Veronica Thomas

Mobile 0417 061 534

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 1 Week 7

Catholic Schools Week 2023 commenced when Mater Maria welcomed Year 3 students from Catholic Schools of the Peninsula Learning Community to join us on Monday for a day to see what it is like in secondary school at Mater Maria. Our Year 10 SRC students assisted staff with activities where Year 3 children spent the day exploring the College, building relationships, making connections between our community of schools and finding out what high school is all about. They cooked biscuits in our Food Technology room, created artwork in our Visual Arts room, watched a drama performance and participated in music activities experimented with science, learnt a little about languages and played a variety of PDHPE sport in the Marana Complex. Despite the very hot day, everyone enjoyed their time at our College. We hope to see many students return in the coming years and we are so grateful to the accompanying Catholic primary school teachers.

Our annual Open Day was held on Wednesday evening. The day was all about sharing the wonderful things that we do at Mater Maria with the local community. We had a fantastic turn out with over 550 families visiting, commenting that they were so happy to be able to celebrate all facets of life at our College, and to display the best of what we have to offer. Visitors were impressed with the faith life of the College, many musical talents, the drama performances and the variety of work being created by students in the various TAS, VET, Visual Arts and Food Technology classrooms. We are very proud of the way in which our students, teachers and parents authentically conveyed the spirit of the College to the community.

A Year 9 Pastoral & Science incursion took place on Friday with Dorothy Maska from Catholic Mission, our Director of Pastoral Care, Mrs Michaela Woodhill, and a forensic science incursion. Ms Makasa spoke to students about world poverty and reflected upon the many ways her faith in Jesus inspired and motivated her to give her life to working for change. Students gained perspective on just how fortunate they are to reside in Australia and how wealth can be better distributed from a Catholic perspective. Mrs Woodhill spoke about cyber citizenship, helping students to acquire the knowledge, skills, and responsibility to participate meaningfully in civil society in the 21st century and build resilience against online manipulation and threats. Our students also participated in a forensic science incursion where they explored a mini- CSI to build their inquiring scientific minds, in the spirit of St Hildegard of Bingen, Pierre Teilhard de Chardin SJ and other brilliant Catholic scientists.

The annual Caritas Project Compass fundraiser was in full swing this week with a fundraising activity every day. This included an egg and spoon race, easter egg guessing competition, games & puzzles, and the annual paper plane flying competition. All activities were positively supported by our engaging students. Mater Maria mountain biking enthusiasts have been in Thredbo this week competing in the Interschools Australian Mountain Biking Competition. This was a fabulous opportunity for students to test themselves against other riders from all over Australia, whilst Year 7 students competed at the Broken Bay U13 Touch Football Gala Day.

Please visit the College website www.matermaria.nsw.edu.au/enrolments for a prospectus, Enrolment Application form or for more information. Applications for Year 7, 2025 close on Thursday 6 April 2023.

Sacramental Program Update

Please pray for all the children who are preparing for the Sacrament of Reconciliation on the 22nd and 29th of March

Sacrament of Confirmation
Saturday, 17 June 2023
at 6pm at Maria Regina Church
Sunday, 18 June 2023
at 10am and 12noon
at Sacred Heart Church

Children in Year 3 and above are eligible to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation if they have been baptised. For more information about the preparation program, enrolments, etc. you MUST attend ONE parent information session which will take place at 7:30pm:

Wednesday 3 May
Sacred Heart Church and
Thursday 4 May
Maria Regina Church
If you have any questions, or
would like to become a facilitator
of your child's preparation group
please contact Sonia at
sacraments@pittwaterparish.org
We need the help of parents to
facilitate the preparation
groups.

CHRISM MASS

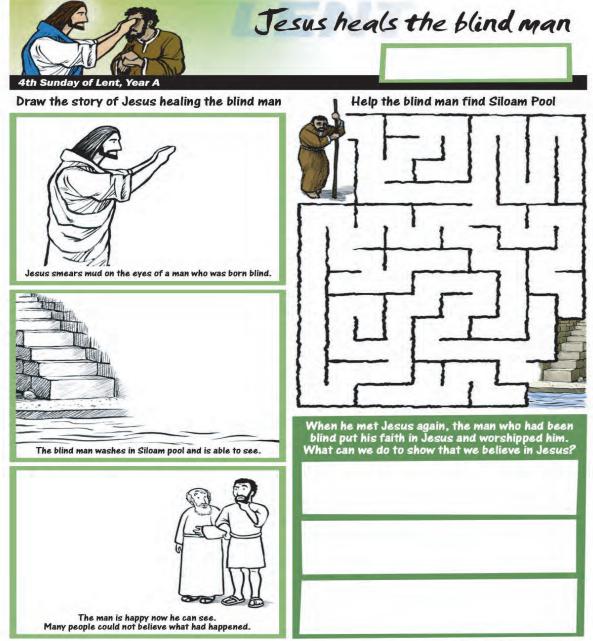
The Chrism Mass will be celebrated at 7.30pm on Tuesday, 4 April at Our Lady of the Rosary Cathedral, Waitara.

The priests of our Diocese gather for

this celebration with

Most Rev Bishop Anthony Randazzo
to renew their priestly commitment.

During Mass, the oils of Catechumens
and the Sick are blessed, and the
Chrism is consecrated and then taken
back to each parish for use in various
Sacramental liturgies throughout
the year.



John 9:1.6-12.35-38

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VACANCY

Parish Secretary – Catholic Parish of Pittwater (Avalon and Mona Vale) Permanent, full-time role

Could you see yourself as the face of our Pittwater Parish communities, providing a sense of warmth and welcome to visitors?

The Pittwater Parish is seeking to recruit a full-time Parish Secretary. This role plays an important part in the Parish team, providing support for Parish communications, administration, financial processes, Parish property, compliance and Diocesan support. The ideal candidate will have excellent people skills, a comprehensive knowledge of office administration processes and procedures and a sound understanding of Microsoft Office Suite, MYOB, bookkeeping or accounting practices.

An ability to work autonomously while remaining a team player, with a commitment to be accountable for performance, and an ability to work collaboratively across a wide spectrum of stakeholders, supported by a good understanding of, and commitment to, Catholic values and teachings will be crucial to your success. If you have high developed administration skills coupled with well-developed relational and rapport building skills and this role interests you, please email a brief cover letter and CV to pp@pittwaterparish.org Applications close Friday, 24 March 2023. The Diocese of Broken Bay is committed to and promotes a culture of safety and care for all people, especially for children and others in the community who are vulnerable. Our Diocese has no tolerance to Child Abuse and is committed to ensuring our staff and volunteers understand the joint responsibility to safeguard all those within our community. The successful applicant must have the right to work in Australia and will be required to undertake a National Police History Check and Working With Children Check.

The Living Word

Entrance Antiphon

Cf. Is 66:10-11

Rejoice, Jerusalem, and all who love her. Be joyful, all who were in mourning; exult and be satisfied at her consoling breast.

First Reading 1 Sm 16:1. 6-7. 10-13 **A reading from the book of Samuel** *In the presence of the Lord God, they anointed David king of Israel.*

The Lord said to Samuel, 'Fill your horn with oil and go. I am sending you to Jesse of Bethlehem, for I have chosen myself a king among his sons.' When Samuel arrived, he caught sight of Eliab and thought, 'Surely the Lord's anointed one stands there before him,' but the Lord said to Samuel, 'Take no notice of his appearance or his height for I have rejected him; God does not see as man sees; man looks at appearances but the Lord looks at the heart.' Jesse presented his seven sons to Samuel, but Samuel said to Jesse, 'The Lord has not chosen these.' He then asked Jesse, 'Are these all the sons you have?' He answered, 'There is still one left, the youngest; he is out looking after the sheep.' Then Samuel said to Jesse, 'Send for him; we will not sit down to eat until he comes.' Jesse had him sent for, a boy of fresh complexion, with fine eyes and pleasant bearing. The Lord said, 'Come, anoint him, for this is the one.' At this, Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him where he stood with his brothers; and the spirit of the Lord seized on David and stayed with him from that day on.

The word of the Lord

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 22 R. v.1

(R.) The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want. Fresh and green are the pastures where he gives me repose. Near restful waters he leads me, to revive my drooping spirit. (R)

He guides me along the right path; he is true to his name.If I should walk in the valley of darkness no evil would I fear

You are there with your crook and your staff; with these you give me comfort.(**R**)

You have prepared a banquet for me In the sight of my foes. My head you have anointed with oil; my cup is overflowing. (R)

Surely goodness and kindness shall follow me all the days of my life. In the Lord's own house shall I dwell for ever and ever. (R)

Second Reading Eph 5:8-14 A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Ephesians

Rise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you.

You were darkness once, but now you are light in the Lord; be like children of light, for the effects of the light are seen in complete goodness and right living and truth. Try to discover what the Lord wants of you, having nothing to do with the futile works of darkness but exposing them by contrast. The things which are done in secret are things that people are ashamed even to speak of; but anything exposed by the light will be illuminated and anything illuminated turns into light. That is why it is said: Wake up from your sleep, rise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you.

The word of the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation

Jn 8:12

Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!

I am the light of the world, says the Lord; whoever follows me will have the light of life

Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ

Gospel Jn 9:1. 6-9. 13-17. 34-38 A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

The blind man went off and washed himself and came away with his sight restored.

As Jesus went along, he saw a man who had been blind from birth. He spat on the ground, made a paste with the spittle, put this over the eyes of the blind man and said to him, 'Go and wash in the Pool of Siloam' (a name that means 'sent'). So the blind man went off and washed himself, and came away with his sight restored.

His neighbours and people who earlier had seen him begging said, 'Isn't this the man who used to sit and beg?' Some said, 'Yes, it is the same one.' Others said, 'No, he only looks like him.' The man himself said, 'I am the man.' They brought the man who had been blind to the Pharisees. It had been a sabbath day when Jesus made the paste and opened the man's eyes, so when the Pharisees asked him how he had come to see, he said, 'He put a paste on my eyes, and I washed, and I can see.' Then some of the Pharisees said, 'This man cannot be from God: he does not keep the sabbath.' Others said, 'How could a sinner produce signs like this?' And there was disagreement among them. So they spoke to the blind man again, 'What have you to say about him yourself, now that he has opened your eyes?' 'He is a prophet' replied the man.

'Are you trying to teach us,' they replied 'and you a sinner through and through, since you were born!' And they drove him away.

Jesus heard they had driven him away,

and when he found him he said to him, 'Do you believe in the Son of Man?' 'Sir,' the man replied 'tell me who he is so that I may believe in him.' Jesus said, 'You are looking at him; he is speaking to you.' The man said, 'Lord, I believe', and worshipped him.

The Gospel of the Lord

Communion Antiphon Cf. Jn 9:11,38

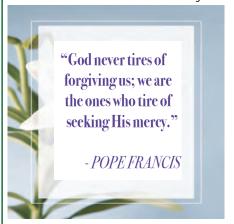
The Lord anointed my eyes: I went, I washed, I saw and I believed in God.

REFLECTION by Dianne Bergant CSA

Humans see and judge by appearances, but God looks into the heart, and there finds the real person. God's standards are not superficial, as are so many of the standards of the world. It is not age, beauty or physical strength that is important; it is not social position or religious role that is preferred. God chooses whom God chooses. God saw in David, the insignificant shepherd, the potential for being the chief shepherd of his people. The man who was born blind became the one through whom others would see the mighty works of God. Yet, neither young David nor the man in the gospel made the initial step; each simply responded with openness to God's choice of him.

By what criteria do we judge others? Do we consider some people too insignificant for greatness? Are we overly concerned with status? Do we categorise people according to the disease or physical limitation that they must endure? Do we sometimes blame them for their disability? Do our eyes perceive life in accord with the standards of a materialistic, body-orientated, pleasure-seeking society? Or do we look into the other's heart, as God does? As with the other scrutiny Sundays, catechumens and long-standing members alike are exhorted to make a choice. Jesus is the one who gives sight to blind eyes and religious insight to those open to receive it. However, there is a price to pay. Will it be the standards of the world, or the power of God in Jesus Christ?

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