The Catholic Parish of Pittwater

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

God Made Us A Family

We need one another. We love one another. We forgive one another. We work together. We play together. We worship together. Together we use God's word. Together we grow in Christ. Together we love all people. Together we serve our God. Together we hope for heaven. These are our hopes and ideals. Help us to attain them, O God, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The NSW Government has made the wearing of masks in all churches mandatory. We ask all coming to the Church to please wear a mask. Please bring your own mask thank you



Thoughts of Fr Francis Jordan

Cast all your cares to the Lord and soon you will discover that the Lord directs all things to the best outcome!



Pope Francis' Prayer Intentions For February



Violence Against Women

We pray for women who are victims of violence, that they may be protected by society and have their sufferings considered and heeded.

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, Mona Vale and Maria Regina Church, Avalon Share the News

Our Churches-Sacred Heart (Mona Vale) and Maria Regina (Avalon) are open.

Come for Mass. Come and pray. Come and light a candle.

Parish Pastoral Council Matthew Hyland matthyland100@yahoo.com.au

Pittwater Parish Ministries

Catechists **Co-Directors** Maureen Wooldridge - 9997 4694 Veronica Thomas veronicathomas2009@gmail.com

Evangelisation Ministry Erich Ott (Coordinator RCIÁ) 0409 124 840 Sr Margaret Collis - 9974 4116 Sue Berg - 0419 991 781 (Coordinators Adult Faith Education/ Formation

Legion of Mary Connie Robinson - Director 0458 007 706

Little Hearts Playgroup Co-Directors-Marie Bockman mbockman@hotmail.com Maureen Wooldridge - 9997 4694

Media & Communication Ministry Laura Ee - Director media@pittwaterparish.org

> **Music Ministry** Josh Willard - Director 9157 0999 ext 17

Pastoral Care and Communion to the Sick Ministry Co-Directors Denise Bottero - 9997 6904 Marie Bockman mbockman@hotmail.com

> **Parish Library** Trish Newman - Director 9918 3973

Sacramental Program Ministry Suzy Caruso 9157 0999 ext 0 sacraments@pittwaterparish.org

Social Justice Ministry Tamara Harding - Director 0403 226 699 www.facebook.com/pages/Pittwater-Friends-OF-Soibada/162612300466694

Youth Ministry soul@pittwaterparish.org or Josh Willard (Soul Youth) music@pittwaterparish.org

All our Ministries comply with Working With Children Check requirements

We acknowledge the lifelong trauma of abuse victims, survivors and their families, the failures of the Catholic Church to protect, believe and respond justly to children and vulnerable adults, and the consequent breach of community trust.



Deceased Anniversary

Pero & Iva Brekalo **Kristof Pecar**

If you would like the names of your relatives or friends and offerings tincluded, please drop the envelope in to the Parish Office by Midday on Wednesdays. Thank You.

Prayers for the Sick

Bill Eyre Manny Zarb Philip Maddrel Gail Reiher Imelda Vince Eric Domagas Vicky Villaluz Ben Castillo

Moira Howie Joma Christine Hills Donald McRae Sara Zofrea Beryl Peo-Duncan John Andrew Graham John Charles Graham Michael Carrodus Pat Regan Robyn Sheather Candida Hernandez

Chin Quang Le Gill Page Tony Quatroville Garry Gleeson Elizabeth Kral Nazarena Custodio Anpete Davis Annette Davis Bernie Neville Tim & Christina O'Connell

The names on this list will be removed after four weeks unless otherwise requested or advised. Thank you

Watch the daily Mass on **Demand from Broken Bay's Cathedral at** https://www.voutube.co m/channel/UCNenwlfI7i 14XB9TsVBrLvQ We hope that this will help

the faithful to celebrate the Holy Mass online wherever you are

6th & 7th February 2021

🖈 trybooking

To ensure that we fulfil the requirements of the 80 (Mona Vale) and 100 (Avalon) people limit, we would like you to use the Trybooking website to book for **our** weekend Masses.

There is no need to book for the weekday Masses.

The bookings are now open. Further weekend Masses will be added each week, taking into consideration any changes in government restrictions.

Here are some pointers that might help:

- 1. Once you have selected the Mass you would like to book for, you will need to enter the quantity of tickets at the bottom of the page. Then click NEXT.
- 2. Once you have read and agreed to the "Ádditional Information" you will need to select "YES" from the dropdown box that says "I Agree to the Terms Above'
- 3. You will then need to enter the First Name and the Last Name of each of the Attendees. Then click NEXT.
- 4. In the Checkout, you will need to complete all the fields, First Name, Last Name, Phone Number, Address, Suburb, Postcode and Email Address. Then click PURCHASE.
- 5. If you have completed the transaction successfully, you will see "Transaction Successful" on the following page and you will receive an email with the "ticket" to the Mass you have selected.
- 6. If you do not see "Transaction Successful" and you do not receive an email (please remember to check your junk email) then the items may still be in your cart and you may need to re-complete one of the steps.
- 7. You do not need to print the ticket. We will have your name on the "Ticket Holder List" for each Mass.

To book for our Masses at Sacred Heart Church, Mona Vale, please visit /www.trybooking.com/BJPSE To book for our Masses at Maria Regina Church, Avalon, please visit https://www.trybooking.com/BJPSP

Please do not hesitate to contact the Parish office 9157 0999 if you need any assistance.

Sacrament of Baptism

Our Baptism program for school age children will be starting on 16 February 2021. If you are interested in this program, please call the parish office on 9157 0999





Mater Maria **Catholic College**

Last week, we warmly welcomed our Years 8 to 12 returning students as well as our new Year 7 students. On Thursday, our Year 7 students sampled high school for the first time and were supported by our Year 11 Peer Leaders. The support and encouragement of our community is extended to these new students as they make this important

transition in their lives. This week, students in Year 7 enjoyed their first high school camp in Nepean and got to know their fellow peers as they prepare for the year ahead. The aim of the two-day camp was to develop friendships across the whole Year 7 cohort and promote positive and healthy relationships.

Year 9 also went on camp for three days in Morisset. They faced the challenge of outdoor activities to help them discover the qualities of self-reliance, leadership and responsibility. A positive attitude to healthy outdoor pursuits will be encouraged during this year, and the bonds between students and teachers will be strengthened.

Our Seniors went on their Year 12 Retreat at the Benedict XVI Center in Grose Vale. The retreat is an important component of the Religious Education and formation program offered at the College and is a special opportunity for students to enrich and deepen the quality of their

relationships with peers, staff and God. Join us for our Open Day on Thursday 4 March between 4.00pm - 7.00pm. We are now enrolling students in Year 5 for Year 7, 2023.

Please visit the College website www.matermaria.nsw.edu.au/enrolment s for a prospectus, Enrolment Application form or for more information. Applications for Year 7, 2022 close on 24 March, 2021.

BOOK REVIEW

The Dark Night of the Soul by Gerald G. May, M.D.



The author is a psychiatrist and shows how our most desperate moments are necessary for

authentic spiritual growth and vital to our experiencing both freedom and joy.



6th & 7th February 2021

At the conclusion of the Year of Mercy in 2016, Pope Francis proposed:

"It would be beneficial if every Christian community, on one Sunday of the liturgical year, could renew its efforts to make the Sacred Scriptures better known and more widely diffused. It would be a Sunday given over entirely to the word of God, so as to appreciate the inexhaustible riches contained in that constant dialogue between the Lord and his

people." (Misericordia et Misera, 7)

On 30 September 2019, Pope Francis made this a reality for the Church by instituting the Sunday of the Word of God. The announcement was sparked

by 2020 being the 10th anniversary of Verbum Domini, Pope Benedict XVI's Apostolic Exhortation on 'The Word of the Lord' and the 1600th anniversary of St Jerome's death (30 September 2020). St Jerome (347 – 30 September 420), Priest and Doctor of the Church, is best known for translating the Bible from the Greek (Septuagint) into the Latin (Vulgate).

In Australia, the Church will celebrate this special Sunday on the 1st Sunday of February each year. This year the Sunday of the Word of God falls on 7th of February 2021.



ROME- The newly established "Sunday of the Word of God" is an invitation to Catholics across the world to deepen their appreciation, love and faithful witness to God and his word, Pope Francis said.



By papal decree, the third Sunday in Ordinary Time is to be observed as a special day devoted to "the celebration, study and dissemination of the word of God."

A day dedicated to the Bible will help the Church "experience anew how the risen Lord opens up for us the treasury of his word and enables us to proclaim its unfathomable riches before the world," the pope said in the document establishing the special Sunday observance. Dioceses and parishes have been invited to respond with creative initiatives, helpful resources and renewed efforts for helping Catholics engage more deeply with the Bible at church and in their lives.

Archbishop Rino Fisichella, president of the Pontifical Council for Promoting New Evangelisation, said added emphasis on the importance of the word of God is needed because "the overwhelming majority" of Catholics are not familiar with sacred Scripture. For many, the only time they hear the word of God is when they attend Mass, he told Vatican News Sept. 30, when the papal document, titled *Aperuit Illis*, was published.

"The Bible is the most widely distributed book,

but it's also perhaps the one most covered in dust because it is not held in our hands," the archbishop said.

With this apostolic letter, the pope "invites us to hold the word of God in our hands every day as much as possible so that it becomes our prayer" and a greater part of one's lived experience, he said.

In his letter, Pope Francis wrote, "A day devoted to the Bible should not be seen as a yearly event but rather a yearlong event, for we urgently need to grow in our knowledge and love of the Scriptures and of the risen Lord, who continues to speak his word and to break bread in the community of believers."

"We need to develop a closer relationship with sacred Scripture; otherwise, our hearts will remain cold and our eyes shut, struck as we are by so many forms of blindness," he wrote. Sacred Scripture and the sacraments are inseparable, he wrote. Jesus speaks to everyone with his word in sacred Scripture, he said, and if people "hear his voice and open the doors of our minds and hearts, then he will enter our lives and remain ever with us."

Francis urged priests to be extra attentive to creating a homily each Sunday that "speaks from the heart" and really helps people understand Scripture "through simple and suitable" language.

The homily "is a pastoral opportunity that should not be wasted," he wrote. "For many of our faithful, in fact, this is the only opportunity they have to grasp the beauty of God's word and to see it applied to their daily lives." Pope Francis encouraged people to read the Second Vatican Council's Dogmatic Constitution on Divine Revelation, Dei Verbum, and Pope Benedict XVI's apostolic exhortation on the Bible, Verbum Domini, whose teaching remains "fundamental for our communities." The pope also suggested pastors provide parishioners with the Bible, a book of the Gospels or other catechetical resources, "enthrone" the Bible in order to emphasise the honour and sacred nature of the text, bless or commission lectors of the parish and encourage people to read and pray with Scripture every day, especially through lectio divina.

"The Bible cannot be just the heritage of some, much less a collection of books for the benefit of a privileged few. It belongs above all to those called to hear its message and to recognise themselves in its words," the pope wrote. "The Bible is the book of the Lord's people, who, in listening to it, move from dispersion and division toward unity" as well as come to understand God's love and become inspired to share it with others, he added. The celebration of the Sunday of the Word of God also "has ecumenical value, since the Scriptures point out, for those who listen, the path to

point out, for those who listen, the path to authentic and firm unity," he wrote. The third Sunday in Ordinary Time falls during that part of the year when the Church is encouraged to strengthen its bonds with the Jewish people and to pray for Christian unity.

The document was published on the feast of St. Jerome, patron saint of biblical scholars and doctor of the Church, who said, "Ignorance of Scripture is ignorance of Christ." The title, *Aperuit Illis*, is based on a verse from the Gospel of St. Luke, "Then he opened their minds to understand the Scriptures."

The pope said it is impossible to understand the Scriptures in depth without the Lord who opens people's minds to his word, yet "without the Scriptures, the events of the mission of Jesus and of his church in this world would remain incomprehensible."

Even though the restrictions in NSW have eased and Churches can now have up to 300 people attending, the one person perfour-square metre rule still applies. This means that the capacity of our Churches remains at 80 for Sacred Heart Church, Mona Vale and 100 for Maria Regina Church, Avalon. Masks are complusory in Church.

We will continue to record names and contact details of those present at services along with the date and time they attend, as required by NSW health.

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

It is our responsibility to protect others and ourselves and stop the spread of COVID-19 in Australia.

Evervone must also stav 1.5 metres away from other people whenever possible. Please sit only in the marked seats.

Thank you for working with us to keep our parish community safe.



THINKING ABOUT PRIESTHOOD?

A Seminary Open Day will be held at on Sunday 14 February 2021 at the Good Shepherd Seminary, 52-58 Abbotsford Road, Homebush starting with Morning Prayer at 9.00am and a public Mass at 10:00am. The day will include prayer, conversations with seminarians and priests, talks with information about the studies required of men training for the priesthood and a guided tour around the Seminary. Brunch will be provided.

For registration or more information visit us at vocationcentre.org.au or contact us at the Vocation Centre on 02 9307 8424 or email vocations@sydneycatholic.org or alternatively contact the Vocations Office Broken Bay on 0418 522 449. Please RSVP your attendance.

DISSEMINATE THE WORD OF GOD

Resources to disseminate the Word of God to all parishioners

Jesus Christ, the Alpha and the Omega – A Lenten Program for the Diocese of Broken Bav

This year, parishes of the Diocese of Broken Bay will take part in a Diocesan Lenten Program, Jesus Christ, the Alpha and the Omega.

This resource invites you to prayerfully reflect on the Sunday Gospel readings in Lent together with the six priorities set before us by Bishop Anthony Randazzo in his Pastoral Letter to the community of the Church of Broken Bay, dated 29 November 2020.

For each of the 6 weeks of Lent, this resource includes a reading of the Gospel text; a reflection on the text which draws on one of Bishop Anthony's priority areas; and a personal testimony on an aspect of that particular priority area. All materials and reflections have been prepared by members from our Broken Bay Church community, making this resource relevant to us and the journey we are on as a community. Copies of Bishop Anthony Randazzo, Pastoral Letter is available at the back of our Churches

Lenten booklets will be available for parishioners soon, and the resource will also be available online at www.bbcatholic.org.au



6th & 7th February 2021

To read the messages from Bishop Anthony and from the people Vox Populi please go to www.pittwaterparish.org. News and events tile and Messages from Bishop Anthony on the drop down menu.

February roster is available on our website www.pittwaterparish.org

THURSDAY MORNING SPIRITUALITY GROUP

We will recommence our study this year on Thursday 4th February with Pope Francis' new Encyclical Letter on Fraternity and Social Friendship. Pope Francis gives us a way of life which allows us to acknowledge, appreciate and love each person, regardless of physical proximity and regardless of where he or she was born or lives. "God has created all human beings equal in rights, duties and dignity and has called them to live together as brothers and sisters." We meet at 10.30 am for morning tea followed by the study until 12 noon. We read through the book in a very relaxed manner gaining new insights from each other. All are invited. Contact Trish Newman ocds on 99183973 or Mb. 0401613643.



Caritas Australia invites you to be part of their Project Compassion Virtual Immersions via Zoom during each week of the Lenten season. These digital engagements will focus on prayer and reflection, Catholic Social Teaching and an interview and Q&A with Caritas International Program staff. Sessions will run Tuesdays and Thursdays for one hour across Australia. Please register at

http://lent.caritas.org.au/virtualimmersions

ASH WEDNESDAY 17 February 2021

Mass Sacred Heart Church 9.30am and 7.00pm 11.30am with Sacred Heart **Primary School**

Maria Regina Church 8am & 10am with Maria Regina **Primary School**

> Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are days of fast and abstinence.

6th & 7th February 2021



Draw Jesus healing Simon's sick mother-in-law



Colour in all the shapes that contain dots to reveal what Jesus wants everyone to know.



The Living Word

Entrance Antiphon O come, let us worship God

Ps 94:6-7

Jb 7:1-4. 6-7

and bow low before the God who made us, for he is the Lord our God.

First Reading

A reading from the book of Job I am filled with sorrow all day long.

Job began to speak: Is not man's life on earth nothing more than pressed service, his time no better than hired drudgery?

Like the slave, sighing for the shade, or the workman with no thought but his wages,

months of delusion I have assigned to me

nothing for my own but nights of grief. Lying in bed I wonder, 'When will it be day?

Risen I think, 'How slowly evening comes!

Restlessly I fret till twilight falls. Swifter than a weaver's shuttle my days have passed,

and vanished, leaving no hope behind. Remember that my life is but a breath, and that my eyes will never again see joy.

The word of the Lord

Responsorial Psalm Ps 146:1-6. R. v.3

(R.) Praise the Lord who heals the broken-hearted. or

(R.) Alleluia!

Praise the Lord for he is good; sing to our God for he is loving: to him our praise is due. (R)

The Lord builds up Jerusalem and brings back Israel's exiles, he heals the broken-hearted, he binds up all their wounds. He fixes the number of the stars; he calls each one by its name. (**R**)

Our Lord is great and almighty; his wisdom can never be measured. The Lord raises the lowly he humbles the wicked to the dust. (R)

Second Reading 1 Cor 9:16-19. 22-23 A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians

Punishment will come to me if I do not preach the Gospel.

I do not boast of preaching the gospel, since it is a duty which has been laid on me; I should be punished if I did not preach it! If I had chosen this work myself, I might have been paid for it, but as I have not, it is a responsibility which has been put into my hands. Do you know what my reward is? It is this: in my preaching, to be able to offer the Good News free, and not insist on the rights which the gospel gives me. So though I am not a slave of any man I have made myself the slave of everyone

so as to win as many as I could. For the

weak I made myself weak. I made myself all things to all men in order to save some at any cost; and I still do this, for the sake of the gospel, to have a share in its blessings.

The word of the Lord

Gospel Acclamation

Mt 8:17

Alleluia, alleluia! He bore our sickness, and endured our suffering. Alleluia!

Gospel Mk 1:29-39 A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark

He cured many who suffered from diseases of one kind or another.

On leaving the synagogue, Jesus went with James and John straight to the house of Simon and Andrew. Now Simon's mother-in-law had gone to bed with fever, and they told him about her straightaway. He went to her, took her by the hand and helped her up. And the fever left her and she began to wait on them.

That evening, after sunset, they brought to him all who were sick and those who were possessed by devils. The whole town came crowding round the door, and he cured many who were suffering from diseases of one kind or another; he also cast out many devils, but he would not allow them to speak, because they knew who he was.

In the morning, long before dawn, he got up and left the house, and went off to a lonely place and prayed there. Simon and his companions set out in search of him, and when they found him they said, 'Everybody is looking for you.' He answered, 'Let us go elsewhere, to the neighbouring country towns, so that I can preach there too, because that is why I came.' And he went all through Galilee, preaching in their synagogues and casting out devils.

The Gospel of the Lord

Communion Antiphon Cf. Ps 106:8-9 Let them thank the Lord for his mercy, his wonders for the children of men, for he satisfies the thirsty soul. and the hungry he fills with good things.

REFLECTION

by Dianne Bergant CSS

Today we see three snapshots from the photo album of life. Suffering comes to everyone. It can take

such a hold of us that the happiness of the past is swallowed up, the beauty of better days is forgotten, and the hope of a brighter future is imperilled. Life ceases to be an adventure and takes on the guise of drudgery. At such times suffering appears to be our permanent fate, and life seems too short for suffering to run its course. If we become identified with our distress, we will be tormented.

Jesus knew the harshness of life, because he was one of us. He saw it in the lives of those he loved, and he was touched by their torment. He came to release people from the demons that possess them, from the illness that undermined their lives. He came to bring the reign of God, the reign of peace and fulfilment. He came to heal the brokenhearted, to bind up their wounds.

Paul was a messenger of this gospel of salvation and fulfilment. He was so committed to his mission that he empathised with all those who heard his preaching – the slaves, the weak, the brokenhearted, all those who knew well the harshness of life. Now it is our turn. We are the disciples who must bring the good news to the brokenhearted, to those who are enslaved, to those who are weak. We are the ones who will then share in the blessings of this good news. © Dianne Bergant CSS



At the beginning of each year, here in Pittwater Parish we introduce a theme that will help us to concentrate upon and explore in the months ahead. In 2019, we focused on the virtue of love, trying to discover the practical possibilities to show the love for God and for one another in our daily lives. Last year, our attention was on prayer, and accepting the invitation from God into a relationship with Him that is both personal and communal.

On 27 December 2020, Pope Francis set a year-long focus on the family to commemorate the feast of the Holy Family. This year dedicated to the family will be inaugurated on the Solemnity of Saint Joseph on the 19 March 2021.

We are all God's children and so not matter what our natural family may look like, we are all a part of God's family.

In every family there are problems and sometimes even arguments. We are human, we are weak and we all guarrel. Pope Francis has said that before the day is over, it is important to make up and not end the day without making peace. He also highlighted the importance of three key concepts to a good family life

- 'Please", 'Thank you" and "Sorry". Based on this announcement on the theme for the whole Church, our Parish of Pittwater will celebrate the Year of Family. Throughout this year we will focus not only on our natural families, but also on our community families. We will draw our attention to God's family, our school family and our parish family who is entrusted to the care of the Salvatorians.

6th & 7th February 2021





LOCAL PEOPLE CARING FOR LOCAL FAMILIES

Our team live, work and play on the Beaches. We understand the local community and are here for you when you need us most. Whether it's to plan an immediate funeral for a loved one or plan ahead for your own with a prepaid funeral, we're here to help.

ANN WILSON FUNERALS

Contact us to find out more.

844 Pittwater Road, Dee Why Cnr E 9971 4224

Cnr Barrenjoey Road & Darley Street, Mona Vale 9979 5978

annwilsonfunerals.com.au

